

MARC U*STAR

Undergraduate Student Training in Academic Research



WINSTON-SALEM
STATE UNIVERSITY

Biomedical Research
Infrastructure Center



SPRING 2019 NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 5



PRESENTING THE 2019 MARC & RISE GRADUATES

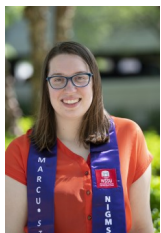
MARC U*STAR Scholars



Tiffany Dean: Has been accepted to a Post-baccalaureate Research Education Program, Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston, MUSC



Zakiyah Henry: Has been accepted to the Joint Graduate (PhD) Program in Toxicology, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey



Tanya Zubov: Has been accepted to the Master of Science in Biology Program, UNC at Greensboro UNCG.

NIGMS RISE Scholars



Lakhia Fuller: Has been accepted to the Masters of Science of Agriculture and Environmental Science Program, NCA&T Univ.



Dynasty Parker: Has been accepted to the Chemistry and Biochemistry PhD Program, University of Texas at Dallas

Other students pictured above (from Left to Right):
Back Row: Faris Wright, Ayanna Brooks, Joshua Waller
Front Row: Alysha Hughes and Imani Clark
Not pictured above: Ziaqueria Short and Kari Dawson

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“Increasing the participation of underrepresented minority (URM) students involved in biomedical/behavioral research”

The National Institute of General Medical Services - Research Initiative for Scientific Enhancement (NIGMS-RISE) program at WSSU consists of a multi-stage training model, grooming underrepresented undergraduate students, starting in their freshman year and continuing through to their senior year, with the focus on increasing the number of students entering and completing graduate education in the biomedical sciences. The RISE program at WSSU has a primary focus on biomedical/behavioral sciences, combined with an approach of garnering incoming freshmen to participate in activities, aimed at maximizing the students' academic performance, helping with their professional development, as well as informing them of the benefits of pursuing research-related careers in the biomedical sciences. Students are trained to develop research laboratory skills and are exposed to the expectations of graduate-level education.

2019 Summer Experiences

Georgina Dzikunu - Fellowship in the International Research Experience for Summer Students (IRES) program. US-China Collaboration

Christopher McCoy - Working in Dr. Kornatz' lab.

Daija McKenzie - WFUSM Excellence In Cardiovascular Sciences.

Dexter Perkins - University of Miami Miller School of Medicine Summer Training in Research Program.

Dustin Sellers - UCLA Brain Research Institute Summer Undergraduate Research Experience (BRI-SURE).

Erica Weaver - WFUSM Excellence In Cardiovascular Sciences.

Tania Bellinger - Univ. of Cincinnati's SURF Program

Joseph Lightsey - Eastern Kentucky University REU Program.

Kamiya Bridges - Summer Medical Scientist Training Program Vanderbilt Univ.

Mykasia Simpkins - WFU Diversity in Cancer Summer Program.

Nataleigh Austin - Michigan State University - SROP.

Sheldon Smith - WSSU Provost's Program; working with Dr. Nations.



First Name	Last Name	Major	Academic Status
Nataleigh	Austin	Biology	Sophomore
Tania	Bellinger	Biology	Junior
Jalen	Bethea	Computer Science	Sophomore
Kamiya	Bridges	Biology	Junior
Adam	Burke	Exercise Science	Junior
Anijah	Carter	Biology	Junior
Tyler	Chisolm	Chemistry	Sophomore
Alysa	Dempsey	Biology	Junior
Kelsey	Douglas	Biology	Junior
Jada	Graves	Biology	Junior
Keaira	Green	Psychology	Junior
Naomi	Isaac Roberts	CLS	Junior
Joseph	Lightsey	Biology	Junior
Christopher	McCoy	Exercise Physiology	Junior
Dajia	McKenzie	Exercise Science	Junior
Timothy	Nixon	Biology	Junior
Dexter	Perkins	Exercise Science	Sophomore
Dustin	Sellers	Exercise Science	Sophomore
Mykasia	Simpkins	Biology	Junior
Sheldon	Smith	Justice Studies	Junior
Terrence	Smith	Computer Science	Junior
Brandon	Travis	Biology	Junior
Erica	Weaver	Biology	Junior

Terrence Smith - Application Development Internship with InnoSource and Nationwide.

Timothy Nixon - Collaborative Multidisciplinary Investigations Through Undergraduate Research Experiences (CEMITURE) Research Experience for Undergraduates, at Georgia Southern Univ.

Tyler Chisolm - Wake Forest Translational Summer Internship.

ABRCMS 2018

The purpose for the Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students is to move the fields of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) forward, it's crucial that there is more diversity, which means the inclusion of minorities, veterans and people with disabilities working in these fields. The first ABRCMS hosted by ASM in 2001, was founded to encourage minority, first-generation, veteran, and disabled students to pursue higher education in STEM. Today, ABRCMS is one the largest professional conferences for underrepresented students. ABRCMS also provides program directors and faculty the tools they need to help their students succeed. The four-day conference includes:

- ◆ 2,100 poster and oral presentations given by undergraduate and postbaccalaureate students
- ◆ Scientific and professional development sessions
- ◆ Over 425 exhibit booths for networking and mentoring opportunities
- ◆ Plenary speakers, conference programming tracks for undergraduates, graduates & postdoctoral scientists, and non-students
- ◆ Awards banquet



RISE Scholar Tania Bellinger, a junior Biology major was a 2018 Poster Presentation winner in the division of Chemistry for her poster on *A rapid Entry into Thichromones via Conjugate Additions of Dialkylcuprates to Thiochromones*. Please join us in congratulating Tania for her excellence in presenting her research at this prestigious conference.

SPRING 2019 SEMINAR SERIES

1/15/19 - Opening Meeting of Spring Semester, Dr. Mamudu Yaku-bu, the Director of Grants welcomed the MARC/RISE Scholars for the spring semester. RISE Scholars were matched with their mentors.

1/29/19 - Exazevia Logan, PhD Assistant Professor, Biological Sciences, WSSU, Letter of Intent Workshop

2/14/19 - Nicquet Blake, PhD, Senior Associate Dean Director, IMSD Training Program and Bridges to the Doctoral Degree University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio

2/19/19 - Lacey R. McNally, PhD, Associate Professor, Cancer Biology, Wake Forest Baptist Health

3/5/19 - Bryle Henderson Hatch, Diversity Manager, Office of Biomedical Graduate Education (OBGE), Duke University School of Medicine

3/19/19 - Keith Keene, PhD, Associate Professor, Interim Director, Center for Health Disparities, Co-Director, Precision Health pan-university Research Cluster, East Carolina University

3/26/19 - Daniel Kim-Shapiro, Professor and Chair, Department of Physics, Wake Forest University

4/9/19 - Practice University Scholarship Day Poster Presentations

4/16/19 - Alumni Speaker Session: PhD Program attendees Lanazha Belfield and Beverly Dosso. Both are former MARC scholars.

4/23/19 - Closing Ceremony for graduates. Certificates and stoles were presented to graduating seniors. Awards for University Research Day winners were given along with the recognition of faculty mentors

EXCELLANCE: WSSU ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP DAY

During the 9th Annual Scholarship Day, work from departments across the WSSU campus, including research by students, both undergraduate and graduate, as well as faculty across a wide range of disciplines, was presented. The exhibitions originated in classrooms, laboratories and community settings. A plethora of the projects have been prepared for presentation at various conferences across the county, such as the Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students (ABRCMS). Scholarship Day is a vehicle for highlighting some of the wonderful work that is taking place at WSSU. The Biomedical Research Infrastructure Center highlighted the work of the MARC and RISE scholars.

Congratulations to Zakiyah Henry MARC Scholars for winning first place in the annual Speech Contest hosted by the Department of Communication and Media Studies



Where are they now?

MARC & MARC Affiliate Graduates:

Ramine Alexander, MA, PhD received her Master's degree in Public Health and PhD in Human Nutrition, from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech) May of 2016.

Antentor Hinton, Jr., PhD is a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the University of Iowa.

James Johnson, PhD is a Research Associate at Florida A&M University.

Lassiter Speller is a Doctoral Candidate at Ohio State University in Human Performance.

Ashley Taylor, PhD is a Scientist II in Analytical Chemist for Johnson & Johnson.

Tempestt Evans is at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Dentistry.

Jasmine Richardson, PharmD is a Pharmacy Manager for Rite Aid

Samantha-Rae Dickenson, EdD is as an Accreditation Specialist at the Council of Education for Public Health in Silver Spring, Maryland. She received her Doctorate of Education in Organizational Leadership from The University of New England in 2018.

Jacqueline Jackson, MS obtained her Master's degree in Cancer Biology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Is currently a Production Scientist for Promega.

Kamedra McNeil, MA is a Forensic Scientist at the DC Department of Forensic Science in Washington, D.C. Received her Master's degree in Computer Information Systems from Strayer University.

Tierra Rudd, MA is presently the Assistant Women's Basketball Coach at Willaim & Mary and Western Carolina University. She received a Master's degree in Psychology with a specialization in Counseling from the University of West Florida.

Jamila Green, MA received her Master's Degree, in Community Social Psychology at the University of Massachusetts Lowell. Currently a Site Coordinator at Communities In Schools of the Midlands in Columbia, SC.

Ashley Moore is Clinical Studies Coordinator for Emergency Medicine at Wake Forest Baptist Health.

Manuela Rigaud, MA, BSN received her Master's degree in Developmental and Child Psychology from the Teachers College, Columbia University in New York City. Received her BSN in nursing 2019.

Jatrya Rivers, MSPH received a Master's Degree in Public Health. Currently working as a Senior Project Manager at SERMO.

Joab Odera is a PhD candidate in the Integrated Biosciences Program at North Carolina Central University.

Dononique Battle, MS is currently working as a Prenatal Geomics Sequencer for LabCorp.

Ashlee Clark, MS received a Master's degree in Biomedical Sciences and Neuroscience at Wake Forest University Health Sciences.

Edie Pettiford, MS is a Specimen Accessioner for LabCorp. She received her MS degree from Campbell University.

Keren (Pereda) Ferris, MPH received a Masters of Public Health (MPH), Public Health Education and Promotion. She is a Project Manager II at Wake Forest Baptist Health.

Jessica Clark, MS received her Master's degree in the area of biomedical sciences in August 2016.

Olivia Franklin is currently attending Idaho State University and in the Master's program in Anthropology.

Tari Cox, MA Received her Master's degree at the University of Western Carolina. She is a Sr. Market Research Analyst at Honest Data, Inc.

Amari Lewis, MS is a PhD student in Computer Science Graduate Program at the University of California at Irvine.

Jason Riley, MSW received a Master's degree in Social Work from the University of Michigan. He is a Diversion Assessment Specialist at Assured Family Services.

Shaina Yates is a PhD student in Molecular and Biosciences Graduate Program at the Wake Forest University Graduate School of Arts and Sciences.

Lanazha Belfield is currently a PhD student in the Molecular Biosciences department at Wake Forest University.

Beverly Dosso is currently a PhD student in the Physiology and Pharmacology department at Wake Forest University.

Ann Lenzo is in the Master's program in Reproductive Science and Medicine at Northwestern University in Chicago, IL.

RISE Graduates:

Taylor Harris is currently in her Fifth year in the PhD program at the University of South Florida in Tampa with her area of focus is Analytical Chemistry.

Kiara Vann, PhD received her PhD in Biomedical Sciences at Morehouse School of Medicine. Currently a Postdoctoral Researcher at Morehouse School of Medicine.

Remi Royal, MA received a double Master's degree one in Psychology and Integrative Biology and the second in Secondary Education with certification Biology. She is currently a Biology Teacher at Lincoln Heights Academy.

Kimberly Hunter, MA is presently working as a Data Analyst at A & T University. She received her Master's degree in Experimental Psychology at New Mexico State University.

Ejiroghene Arhagba, MA Received is Master's degree in Chemistry at North Carolina A&T State University.

Anthony Dixon, MS received his MS degree in Occupational Therapy at WSSU in December 2015.

Ebone Evans, MD received her medical degree May 2019 from East Carolina University Brody School of Medicine.

Georges Guillaume is a second year Medical student at Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis MO.

Ashley Tucker, MA has a double Master's degree: one in Public Administration - Community Economic Development; the second in City/Urban, Community and Regional Planning - Economic Development from the University of NC at Chapel Hill. She is an Assistant Project Manager at Telesis Corp.

Victoria Sedwick, MS received her Master's degree in Biomedical Sciences and is currently in her second year in the Biomedical Sciences PhD program at Albert Einstein College of Medicine.

Khala Clemons pursuing a Master's degree at the University of Denver.

Eric Pridgen, MA earned a Master's degree in Applied Analytics from Columbia University May 2018. Is currently the Program Manager of Workforce Analytics for Novant Health.

Zipporah Foster, MS earned a Master's degree in general Psychology from Eastern Kentucky University December 2018. She is a Recruiting/Administrative Assistant for Frankel Staffing Partners.

Sierra Sledge is currently in the Master's of Public Health Program at UNC Charlotte, NC.

Thomas Fair Is currently in the Post-Baccalaureate Research Education Program (PREP) at Baylor College of Medicine (BCM) in Houston, TX.

Nmyia Collins is currently in the Master's program in Experimental Psychology at Augusta University.

For December 2018 and May 2019 Graduates, please refer to page 1.