



THE PROMISE OF LEADERSHIP

Celebrating the First 100 PhDs

*Emerging PhDs
Yearbook*

THE LEADERSHIP ALLIANCE
2008-2009

Foreword



VALERIE PETIT WILSON

Executive Director
Leadership Alliance

The Leadership Alliance is a consortium of institutions of higher learning dedicated to improving the participation of underrepresented minority students in graduate school and ultimately increasing their participation in the academic enterprise. Therefore, Alliance research programs are designed to identify, motivate and enroll young scientists from these populations into graduate training and professional apprenticeships to compete for positions in the academy. The strategies employed include providing quality summer research internships under the guidance of faculty or corporate mentors at some of the top research institutions in the country, fellowships for graduate students to pursue professional development opportunities as they near completion of their Ph.D. and networking opportunities at the Leadership Alliance National Symposium (LANS)* for the critical next step along the academic pathway.

Since 1995, the consortium has held the LANS, a conference which brings together the Alliance community of undergraduates who participated in the summer research program, graduate students, faculty, administrators, selected private sector and industry representatives and federal officials. Beginning in 2004, a cohort of doctoral students was invited to participate in the LANS. One tangible result of this networking activity was the development of the 'Emerging PhDs Yearbook', which provides a brief resume of those individuals who are seeking postdoctoral appointments in the near future. The postdoctoral experience is often viewed as a necessary apprenticeship for gaining scientific, technical, and other skills that advance a researcher's academic and professional career. As the number of underrepresented students entering and completing research doctoral training is increasing, it is important that these new doctoral recipients secure postdoctoral appointments.

The goal of this publication is simply to match outstanding young doctoral scholars with outstanding opportunities for postdoctoral appointments. Our goals are consistent with those of the National Postdoctoral Association's Diversity Committee in seeking to diversify the postdoctoral ranks across universities and research institutions nationwide. We hope that you, as a recipient of this document, will review the qualifications of these graduate scholars carefully and share their resumes with faculty, researchers and others who have postdoctoral positions available. Each of these 'Emerging PhDs' looks forward to being contacted about postdoctoral opportunities, and specific contact information is included in their brief biographical sketch.

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Table of Contents

Emerging PhD Students Admitted to Candidacy

Christina Calvin	3	Jenel Nixon	10
Candace Carroll	4	Betty Noel	11
Luis Cuadra-Rodriguez	5	Perzavia Praylow	12
Denise Davis	6	Shella Saint Fleur	13
Jacqueline Jenkins	7	Uciane Scarlett	14
Ikenna Madu	8	Erica Williams	15
Oscar Martinez Jr.	9		

Emerging PhDs in the Pipeline 16-17

Maria Abreu	Rohan Palmer
Taniecea Arceneaux	Marvin Perez
Michline Brice	Kedrick Perry
Howard Crumpton	Mabel Ramirez
Alejandro Delgado	Ann Marie Russell
Scharri Ezell	Dawn Seales
Heather Flores	Monica Trujillo
Albert Hayward	Melvys Valledor
Camille Lawrence	Paloma Vargas
Sam McNeal Jr.	Christina Williams
Yolanda Nesbeth	Caira Woods
Natalie Palmer	

Christina Calvin

Abstract of Research/Personal Statement

Martian meteorites are one of the few tools planetary geologists have for interpreting martian geologic evolution. While recent martian missions have revealed the chemistry of the martian surface, these missions can not distinguish in which minerals the elements are held. It is also difficult to determine the temporal relationship between different mineral phases strictly from the data received from missions. Only through the study of martian meteorites can the relationship and chemistry of individual mineral grains be separated and studied for clues to the martian rock cycle. My research has focused on the shergottite class of meteorites which are martian volcanic rocks. By examining individual minerals, I have determined the original composition of the magma from which the meteorites formed. Characterizing this magma allows the mineralogy and chemical characteristics of the martian interior to be experimentally determined. In addition, by synthesizing and crystallizing that magma composition, I have been able to determine the pressure, temperature, and volatile content necessary to produce the rock on Mars. This data places greater constraints on our understanding of the martian rock cycle than could be achieved through missions alone.

Next Step/Career Goal

I hope to find a research position that allows me to continue characterizing magmas both in terrestrial and extraterrestrial systems. In addition, I hope to develop practical applications of my research to help people who live in volcanic zones. Understanding how magmas develop and change within a volcanic system has the potential to help with eruption forecasts.

Christina Calvin



Graduate School: Brown University
Major Field of Study: Geology
Year Began: 2003
Admitted to Candidacy: Feb. 2006
Email: christina_calvin@brown.edu
Graduate Institution: New Mexico
Institute of Mining and Technology
Degree Granted: MS Geology, 2003
Undergraduate Institution: Occidental
College
Degree Granted: BA Anthropology,
1995

Candace Carroll

Graduate School: University of Missouri
Major Field of Study: Biomedical
Sciences

Year Began: 2005

Admitted to Candidacy: Sept. 2007

Email: ceccn7@mizzou.edu

Undergraduate Institution: Tougaloo
College

Degree Granted: BS Biology, 2005

Summer Program Experience:

Summer Undergraduate Research
Program, 2004

Institution: University of Georgia

Mentor: Kirk Cureton

Leadership Alliance SR-EIP, 2003

Institution: Cornell University

Mentor: Norm Ducharme

Gateways to Veterinary Medicine,
2002

Institution: University of Missouri

Mentor: Carolyn Henry

Abstract of Research/Personal Statement

Millions of postmenopausal women are prescribed combined hormone replacement therapy (HRT), consisting of both estrogens and progestins, to diminish menopausal symptoms; progestins negate the proliferative effects of estrogens in the uterus, which can lead to endometrial cancer. Unfortunately, studies show that combined HRT increases the risk of breast cancer, compared to women who receive estrogens alone. Thus, there is a need to design strategies that will negate the proliferative effect of progestins in the breast. My dissertation project investigates the ability of two naturally occurring compounds, the Indian spice curcumin and the estrogen metabolite 2-methoxyestradiol, to combat the increased risk of breast cancer by inhibiting progestin-driven angiogenesis, and VEGF production. Positive outcomes from these studies would suggest that curcumin and/or 2-methoxyestradiol could be considered as chemopreventive or therapeutic agents for progestin-dependent breast tumors in postmenopausal women undergoing HRT.

Next Step/Career Goal

After completing my Ph.D., I plan to pursue a faculty position, with little if any research responsibility. My long term career goals include a mentoring role in academia, specifically at a smaller institution of higher learning. This appeals to me because I desire to be an inspiration to minority students interested in scientific research, as well as be in a position to provide students with an opportunity to experience and become exposed to mainstream science.

Luis Cuadra-Rodriguez

Abstract of Research/Personal Statement

We have built a new instrument to study the oxidation of surfactants coating water droplets in the laboratory. These studies are to model the complex chemistry that is relevant to the atmospheric oxidation of organic aerosols. We plan to produce a stream of organic aerosols, size-select them and inject them into an atmospheric flow tube where they will be dosed with OH radicals. The resultant oxidized particles will be analyzed with a novel aerosol mass spectrometer.

Next Step/Career Goal

I plan to earn a research degree as an experimental physical chemist. With this experimental work I will become thoroughly grounded in the fundamental chemical processes that govern organic oxidations at the atmosphere/particle interface. Also I would like to find a research position in which I can continue our understanding of atmospheric particles and their effects on our planet.

Luis Cuadra-Rodriguez

Graduate School: University of Colorado at Boulder

Major Field of Study: Chemistry

Year Began: 2004

Admitted to Candidacy: Feb. 2006

Email: luis.cuadra-rodriguez@colorado.edu

Undergraduate Institution: University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras

Degree Granted: BS, Environmental Science and Chemistry, 2004

Summer Program Experience:
GCEP-SURE, 2003

Institution: Argonne National Laboratory

Mentor: Jeff Gaffney

Denise Davis

Denise Davis



Graduate School: Yale University
Major Field of Study: Neuroscience
Year Began: 2002
Admitted to Candidacy: 2005
Email: denise.davis@yale.edu
Undergraduate Institution: Delaware
State University
Degree Granted: BS Biology, 2002

Summer Program Experience:
Leadership Alliance SR-EIP, 2001
Institution: Johns Hopkins University
Mentor: Alex Kolodkin

Abstract of Research/Personal Statement

Signaling Mechanisms of a Novel Axon Guidance Molecule: RGM, Repulsive Guidance Molecule, and its receptor Neogenin. Repulsive Guidance Molecule (RGM) repels temporal retinal ganglion cell axons in the developing chick brain through its putative receptor, Neogenin. Neogenin is an UNC-40 homologue related to DCC, the receptor for Netrin. Like DCC, Neogenin associates with both Src and FAK, suggesting a possible role for these kinases in the repulsive action of RGM. Therefore, we investigated the underlying signaling mechanisms mediating RGM's effects on mammalian neurons. Our results demonstrate that RGM decreases adhesion, suppresses outgrowth and inhibits regeneration of cortical neurons. In contrast to Netrin/DCC signaling, RGM stimulates dephosphorylation of Neogenin thereby, diminishing its association with Src and FAK. These data together implicate Src kinase activity in the downstream signaling pathway of RGM.

Next Step/Career Goal

I will finish my doctoral thesis in the fall of 2008. Then, I will complete a postdoctoral fellowship in the area of synapse development and function. During my postdoc, I will acquire technical skills in biophysics and proteomics. Ultimately, I would like to investigate molecular mechanisms underlying the development of various neurological and neurodegenerative disorders.

Jacqueline Jenkins

Abstract of Research/Personal Statement

Born in Washington D.C. and educated in its public schools, Jackie was the first in her family to attend college. She received her BA from Princeton University, and went on to receive two Masters degrees from Stanford University, in Education and Critical Social Theory, respectively. She is currently near completion of her Ph.D. at Stanford University in Modern Thought & Literature. Her dissertation—a critical ethnography entitled ‘Ghosts in the Machine: White Identity Politics, Reform, and Power in the Coalition of Essential Schools’ Urban Small Schools Project’—combines social history and critical social theory as a framework for investigating a new identity politics that has emerged in the last decade around the “small schools” movement and the transformation of urban high schools, particularly in the San Francisco Bay area. By intervening in a discussion amongst political philosophers about justice and equality in the constitution of liberal democracies, Jackie’s work explores potential promises and pitfalls in the varied approaches of progressive reformers in their everyday struggles to enforce democratic practices, honor diversity, and challenge inequity in the creation of urban small schools. Her research interests include: History of American Public Education; The Politics of Urban Schooling; Liberalism & Critiques of Liberalism; U.S. Race Relations; Critical Race, Marxist, and Feminist Theories; Educational Anthropology.

Next Step/Career Goal

Jackie’s future career goals include teaching, mentoring, research, writing, activism and policy reform in her efforts to stop the downward spiral of urban public education at the national level. She is in the process of co-founding “The People’s Institute of Critical Social Theory” with a long-time colleague and innovator in the field of urban education. Together, they plan to continue to break barriers and build bridges between the K-12 world and post-secondary institutions; to build the capacity of urban residents to transform urban schools in their communities; and to assist our national leaders in understanding the challenges of urban public education.

Jacqueline Jenkins



Graduate School: Stanford University
Major Field of Study: Modern
Thought and Literature
Year Began: 2001
Admitted to Candidacy: June 2004
Email: jackie.jenkins@stanford.edu
Graduate School: Stanford University
Degree Granted: MA Education,
2005
Undergraduate Institution: Princeton
University
Degree Granted: BA English, 1998

Summer Program Experience:
Leadership Alliance SR-EIP, 1997
Institution: Columbia University
Mentor: Marcellus Blount
Mellon Minority Undergraduate
Summer Program, 1996
Institution: Yale University
Mentor: Vera Kutzinski

Ikenna Madu

Ikenna Madu

Graduate School: Cornell University
Major Field of Study: Biochemistry,
Molecular and Cell Biology

Year Began: 2005

Admitted to Candidacy: May 2008

Email: im66@cornell.edu

Undergraduate Institution: CSU Los Angeles

Degree Granted: BS Biochemistry, 2000

Abstract of Research/Personal Statement

Envelope viruses infect cells by fusing the viral membrane to the host cell membrane. Specific glycoproteins on the viral membrane are responsible for fusing the membranes. Viral glycoproteins, under the influence of cellular environmental cues, rearrange their structure to present a stretch of amino acids known as a fusion peptide (FP). The FP inserts into the host membrane and is responsible for the initial lipid destabilization that leads to the host/viral membrane fusion event. With coronaviruses (CoV) like the severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) the viral glycoprotein S, mediates the fusion of the viral and host cell membrane. Coronavirus S protein can further be divided into two sub-units S1 and S2. S1 is responsible for receptor binding and differs in sequence conservation with host range within the CoV family while the more conserved S2 which houses the FP, is responsible for fusion. To date, the FP for coronaviruses has not been isolated. My work on elucidating the CoV FP is focused on a 20 amino acid region in S2 that is conserved in all the CoV families. CoV S glycoprotein point mutations to this conserved region in S2 and assaying for fusigenic activity has highlighted key residues that infers that this conserved region may play a role in the CoV fusion mechanism as the fusion peptide .

Next Step/Career Goal

My current goals are to graduate by fall 2010. I would then like to carry out post-doctoral studies in industry before ultimately securing a position in the biotechnology industry.

Oscar Martinez Jr.

Abstract of Research/Personal Statement

The interstellar medium (ISM) is chemically rich, with a variety of neutral and ionic species having been identified thus far. Ion-neutral reactions have been implicated as important mechanisms for the formation of molecules in the ISM. However, the rate constants and product branching ratios for many potentially relevant reactions have not been studied or are not known with sufficient precision. The information provided by the laboratory astrophysics study of these reactions allows for better modeling and understanding of interstellar evolution. My thesis work will utilize the flowing afterglow-selected ion flow tube technique to examine the reactions of carbon cation with several prevalent interstellar neutral reactants. In addition, the associative detachment reaction $\text{H}^- + \text{H} \rightarrow \text{H}_2 + \text{e}^-$ will be studied because of its cosmological significance. Future work will consider reactions of other ions including polycyclic aromatic cations and carbon-nitrogen anions, both with atomic and molecular reactants.

Next Step/Career Goal

I am currently planning to follow a postdoctoral route, after which I will pursue an academic faculty position.

Oscar Martinez Jr.



Graduate School: University of
Colorado at Boulder

Major Field of Study: Physical
Chemistry

Year Began: 2005

Admitted to Candidacy: March 2007

Email: oscar.martinez@colorado.edu

Undergraduate Institution: University of
Maryland, Baltimore County

Degree Granted: BS Chemistry, 2005

Jenel Nixon

Jenel Nixon



Graduate School: University of Medicine
and Dentistry of New Jersey

Major Field of Study: Pharmacology

Year Began: 2003

Admitted to Candidacy: Nov. 2005

Email: nixonje@umdnj.edu

Undergraduate Institution: Delaware
State University

Degree Granted: BS Biology, 2003

Summer Program Experience:

Summer Undergraduate Research
Program, 2002

Institution: University of Pennsylvania

Mentor: Ramesh Ragupathi

Undergraduate Research Program, 2001

Institution: Thomas Jefferson University

Mentor: Miriam Wahl

Undergraduate Research Program, 2000

Institution: University of Delaware

Mentor: Calvin Keeler

Abstract of Research/Personal Statement

Interacting Proteins of Esc1, a Protein Involved in Silent Chromatin Positioning. Jenel Nixon, Marc R. Gartenberg. The periphery of the nucleus constitutes a domain critical for transcriptional control. In yeast, many activated genes associate with nuclear pore components. Transcriptionally silenced genes have also been shown to accumulate at the nuclear periphery. The HMR silent mating-type locus is anchored in this position by two proteins, the DNA end binding protein Ku and the resident nuclear periphery protein Esc1. To investigate how Esc1 functions in chromosome positioning and gene regulation, we adapted the split-ubiquitin two-hybrid screen to identify Esc1 interacting proteins. This screen utilizes two complimentary fragments of ubiquitin, which when reconstituted generate an easily measured phenotypic signal. We have identified several putative Esc1 interacting partners whose functions range from transcriptional elongation to rRNA processing to the ER degradation pathway. In particular, the recovered candidate, CUE1, a trans-membrane protein of the ER that tethers an E2 ubiquitin-conjugating enzyme, Ubc7, has yielded interesting results in secondary assays. Additionally, another protein, UBC6, another E2 enzyme at the ER showed similar results in secondary assays. These results are intriguing because the ER is contiguous with the nuclear membrane, suggesting that Cue1, Ubc6 and the ubiquitin pathway may be involved in Esc1 localization and function.

Next Step/Career Goal

The inadequate education and deficient health care in underprivileged communities has compelled me to pursue a career that deals with the development of drugs that are specific for treatment of diseases that are prevalent in underrepresented communities.

Betty Noel

Abstract of Research/Personal Statement

Survival of *Yersinia pestis* in Activated Macrophages: Role of the Phagocytosis Mechanism. Betty Noel, James Bliska. Stony Brook University. *Yersinia pestis*, the causative agent of plague, uses a type III secretion system (TTSS) to translocate its effector proteins, Yops, into the host cell. Located at the tip of the TTSS needle is the multifunctional virulence protein LcrV. Antibodies against LcrV are protective against plague in murine infection assays. We hypothesize that *Y.pestis* is sensitive to killing by activated macrophages when uptake occurs in the presence of anti-LcrV antibodies, as these conditions would be associated with uptake via the Fc receptor and a strong oxidative burst. We would like to develop an in vitro system to determine the mechanism behind LcrV antibody mediated protection. Phagocytosis assays showed that in naïve macrophages internalization significantly increased when *Y.pestis* is opsonized with protective anti-LcrV serum. When Raw264.7 cells are activated with Interferon gamma, we find that uptake increases in all infection conditions. We used Lactate Dehydrogenase release assays to indirectly monitor the effects of anti-LcrV antibodies on Yop mediated cell death. We found that at 5 hours post-infection, LDH release by macrophages infected with *Y.pestis* opsonized with anti-LcrV serum was significantly less compared to the control. These results indicate that anti-LcrV antibodies increase uptake as well as inhibit translocation of Yops into macrophages early in infection. Future experiments will investigate if internalization of *Y.pestis* into activated macrophages in the presence of anti-LcrV antibody results in a stronger oxidative burst and decreased intracellular survival.

Next Step/Career Goal

As I continue through graduate school I find that research, teaching, and mentoring are aspects that I really enjoy. Once I successfully get my PhD, I would like to obtain a faculty position at a small liberal arts college. This career would allow me to teach and conduct research with an emphasis on undergraduate involvement. It would allow me the opportunity to mentor undergraduates and perhaps encourage them to pursue research careers themselves.

Betty Noel



Graduate School: Stony Brook University

Major Field of Study: Molecular
Microbiology

Year Began: 2003

Admitted to Candidacy: May 2007

Email: bnoel@notes.cc.sunysb.edu

Undergraduate Institution: Brooklyn
College

Degree Granted: BA Biology, 2003

Summer Program Experience:

Leadership Alliance SR-EIP, 2002

Institution: Yale University

Mentor: Graham Warren

Science Outreach Program, 1998

Institution: The Rockefeller University

Mentor: Magda Konarska

Perzavia Praylow

Graduate School: University of Illinois at
Urbana-Champaign

Major Field of Study: African American
History

Minor Fields: Comparative Women's
History, United States Since 1830

Year Began: 2005

Admitted to Candidacy: March 2008

Email: praylow@uiuc.edu

Graduate Institution: University of Illinois at
Urbana-Champaign

Degree Granted: MA History of Education/
Education Policy, 2005

Undergraduate Institution: Drew University

Degree Granted: BA History, 2002

Summer Program Experience:

PSURE, 2000

Institution: Princeton University

Mentor: Thomas Espinshade

Abstract of Research/Personal Statement

My scholarly interests are related to the intersection of race and gender in the historical study of American higher education. My dissertation project, "Transforming Respectability: Black Women and the Development of Coeducation at Fisk, 1924-1970," chronicles changes and shifts in both coeducation and the collegiate experiences of Black women at Fisk University. Drawing from archival collections housed primarily within the Special Collections Division of the Fisk University library, my dissertation uses gender as an important historical lens to document the hidden experiences of black women students—Fisk's majority population between 1924 and 1970. While multiple studies exist on the history of black higher education in general and Fisk University in particular, these studies obfuscate the unique experiences of black women students. Through a detailed analysis of primary sources from the Fisk University Special Collection Archives and oral histories of Fisk alumnae, this dissertation explores how Fisk women, administrators, faculty and staff attempted to define appropriate higher education for Fisk women. Through a critical analysis of Black women's collegiate experiences, my dissertation suggests that black women students at Fisk played active roles in shaping the development of coeducation at Fisk.

Next Step/Career Goal

Upon entering the history professoriate, I aspire to teach courses in American history that do not silence the historical experiences of women and racial and ethnic minorities in the American past. Also, I endeavor to teach history courses in the history of education that focus on diversity in order to contribute to the training of socially and culturally aware teachers and administrators of education. After teaching for a few years, specifically in an African American Studies or history department, I also desire to work as a higher education administrator in order to shape access to higher education through employment in administrative positions related to the deanship of students, academics, and minority affairs.

Shella Saint Fleur

Abstract of Research/Personal Statement

As a graduate student, I have been working in the laboratory of Dr Hodaka Fujii in the department of Pathology at NYU School of Medicine. The lab studies cytokine signaling and my project involves the study of the role of a novel cytokine-induced protein in the regulation of immune homeostasis. We call the protein Cyclon for cytokine-induced protein with coil-coiled domain. Particularly, I have been able to show that T-cell specific overexpression of Cyclon cure splenomegaly in mice with defect in IL-2R signaling. These mice generally develop autoimmunity characterized by hemolytic anemia, inflammatory bowel disease, splenomegaly and lymphadenopathy. I have shown that Cyclon can restore the normal size of the lymphoid organs by enhancing activation-induced cell death in both CD4 (+) and CD8 (+) T cells. I have also shown that its action is mediated by the Fas pathway and that Cyclon has a non redundant role in the regulation of Fas in CD4 (+) T cells. I am finalizing the last part of my research by looking at the molecular mechanism of Cyclon-mediated Fas regulation.

Next Step/Career Goal

Being an MD/PhD student, my next step will be to go back to medical school and complete my degree requirements. I hope to graduate in 2010. My ideal position, afterward, will be a research track residency in Internal Medicine followed by a fellowship in rheumatology or hematology/oncology. An alternate path will be to do a research oriented residency in radiation oncology. Ultimately, I want to have a career where translational research will be a major component of my activities.

Shella Saint Fleur



Graduate School: New York University
School of Medicine
Major Field of Study: MD/PhD Molecular
Oncology and Immunology
Year Began: 2003
Admitted to Candidacy: July 2006
Email: ssf224@nyumc.org
Undergraduate Institution: Brooklyn
College
Degree Granted: BS Biology, 2003

Summer Program Experience:
Leadership Alliance SR-EIP, 2002
Institution: Harvard University
Mentor: Stephen Lory

Uciane Scarlett

Uciane Scarlett



Graduate School: Dartmouth College
Major Field of Study: Immunology
Year Began: 2006
Admitted to Candidacy: May 2008
Email: jenyata@hotmail.com
Undergraduate Institution: University of the
West Indies
Degree Granted: BS Biotechnology, 2005

Abstract of Research/Personal Statement

Despite significant advances in cancer biology, five-year survival rates for ovarian carcinoma patients are still lower than 40%. As ovarian cancer cells exhibit strongly immunogenic determinants, immunotherapy offers great promise to complement standard treatments. However, success has been elusive due to an incomplete understanding of the peculiar immunosuppressive networks that operate in ovarian cancer. My lab's work established that dendritic cells are massively recruited to ovarian tumors, where they are converted into accomplices for angiogenesis. However, we also exposed their capacity to act as antigen-presenting cells, while in vivo activation of DCs can be achieved through Toll-like receptor and CD40 agonists. My central hypothesis is that ovarian cancer-infiltrating DCs can be activated in vivo and in situ to elicit efficient presentation of phagocytosed tumor antigens to anti-tumor T cells. My long-term objective is to elicit protective immunity against ovarian cancer. To achieve this goal, I am in the process of: 1. Determining how CD40/TLR agonists impact the immune response against ovarian cancer; and 2. Defining the molecular requirements for the immune response elicited by CD40/TLR agonists.

Next Step/Career Goal

My career goal as a scientist is to contribute to the growing pool of understanding which involves the underlying approaches to definitive therapy which compliments conventional cancer treatment and as such, requires a complete understanding of precise mechanisms which contribute to the occurrence and spread of tumors, which I aim to achieve at the end of my graduate career. With this comprehensive knowledge base I hope to either take the industrial path or enter the business world as a consultant.

Erica Williams

Abstract of Research/Personal Statement

What role has the marketing of an Afro-Brazilian culture imagined as jovial, fun loving, carefree, and sensual played in Salvador's recent emergence as a major site of sexual tourism? My dissertation, "Anxious Pleasures: Race and the Sexual Economies of Transnational Tourism in Salvador, Brazil," investigates the cultural and sexual politics of the international tourism industry in Salvador. Drawing upon data collected through participant observation, archival research, interviews, and media analysis during sixteen months of ethnographic research in Salvador, Brazil, this project analyzes the construction of Salvador as a "site of desire" in which blackness is marketed as a symbol of national culture and tropical sensuality. It examines how Afro-Brazilian culture is consumed within the context of tourism, and how the Bahian state strategically appropriates an eroticized blackness and Afro-Brazilian culture to "sell" Bahia to international and domestic tourists.

Next Step/Career Goal

I have been awarded the Black Studies Dissertation Fellowship at the University of California at Santa Barbara for the 2008-2009 academic year. I currently have completed three chapter drafts of my dissertation. This year at UCSB, I will be working on my dissertation, teaching a self-designed upper-level undergraduate course entitled "Race, Erotics and Globalization" in the Winter quarter, and applying for postdoctoral fellowships. My goal is to submit my dissertation and graduate from Stanford University with my Ph.D in Anthropology in the Summer of 2009.

Erica Williams

Graduate School: Stanford University

Major Field of Study: Cultural Anthropology

Year Began: 2003

Admitted to Candidacy: Jan. 2005

Email: elw9@stanford.edu

Undergraduate Institution: New York University

Degree Granted: BA Cultural Anthropology, 2002

Summer Program Experience:

Alliance International Research for Minority Scholars, 2000

Institution: University of the Western Cape, South Africa

Mentor: Dorothy Denniston

Leadership Alliance SR-EIP, 1999

Institution: Howard University

Mentor: Michael Blakey

Emerging PhDs in the Pipeline

Maria Abreu

Graduate School: Vanderbilt University
Major Field of Study: Cancer Biology
Year Began: 2005
Admitted to Candidacy: October 2007
Email: maria.abreu@vanderbilt.edu
Undergraduate Institution: Barry University
Degree Granted: BS Biology, 2003.5

Taniecea Arceneaux

Graduate School: Princeton University
Major Field of Study: Applied and Computational Mathematics
Year Began: 2007
Email: tarcenea@princeton.edu
Undergraduate Institution: Loyola University New Orleans
Degree Granted: BS Mathematics, 2005

Michline Brice

Graduate School: University of Maryland Eastern Shore
Major Field of Study: Food Science and Technology
Year Began: 2008
Email: mich_10977@yahoo.com
Graduate Institution: Delaware State University
Degree Granted: MS Biology, 2008
Undergraduate Institution: Cheyney University
Degree Granted: BA Biology, 2006

Howard Crumpton

Graduate School: University of Virginia
Major Field of Study: Clinical and School Psychology
Year Began: 2007
Admitted to Candidacy: March 2008
Email: hec4v@virginia.edu
Undergraduate Institution: Hampton University
Degree Granted: BA, Spanish, Psychology, 2004

Alejandro Delgado

Graduate School: Yale University
Major Field of Study: History
Year Began: 2006
Email: alejandro.delgado@yale.edu
Undergraduate Institution: Colgate University
Degree Granted: BA History and Latin American Studies, 2004

Scharri Ezell

Graduate School: University of Alabama at Birmingham
Major Field of Study: Pharmacology/Toxicology
Year Began: 2005
Email: scharri.ezell@cc.uab.edu
Undergraduate Institution: Tougaloo College
Degree Granted: BS Chemistry, 2005

Heather Flores

Graduate School: Cornell University
Major Field of Study: Genetics
Year Began: 2005
Admitted to Candidacy: August 2007
Email: haf22@cornell.edu
Undergraduate Institution: University of Nebraska, Lincoln
Degree Granted: BS, Biology and Mathematics, 2005

Albert Hayward

Graduate School: University of Miami
Major Field of Study: Developmental Neurobiology
Year Began: 2006
Admitted to Candidacy: August 2008
Email: ahayward@bio.miami.edu
Undergraduate Institution: Morehouse College
Degree Granted: BS Biology, 2006

Camille Lawrence

Graduate School: University of Virginia
Major Field of Study: Research, Statistics and Evaluation
Year Began: 2007
Email: cll7m@virginia.edu
Graduate School: University of Virginia
Degree Granted: MEd Research, Statistics and Evaluation, 2007
Undergraduate Institution: College of William and Mary
Degree Granted: BS Psychology, 2000

Sam McNeal Jr.

Graduate School: Brown University
Major Field of Study: Pathobiology
Year Began: 2006
Email: sam_mcneal@brown.edu
Undergraduate Institution: Georgia State University
Degree Granted: BS Biology, 2006

Yolanda Nesbeth

Graduate School: Dartmouth College
Major Field of Study: Immunology
Year Began: 2005
Admitted to Candidacy: August 2007
Email: nesbeth@dartmouth.edu
Undergraduate Institution: University of the West Indies
Degree Granted: BS Molecular Biology, 2005

Natalie Palmer

Graduate School: Cornell University
Major Field of Study: English-Caribbean Literature
Year Began: 2004
Admitted to Candidacy: May 2007
Email: nml29@cornell.edu
Undergraduate Institution: Rutgers University, New Brunswick
Degree Granted: BA English/Criminal Justice, 2004

Rohan Palmer

Graduate School: University of Colorado at Boulder
Major Field of Study: Psychology/Behavioral Genetics
Year Began: 2005
Email: palmerr@colorado.edu
Undergraduate Institution: William Paterson University
Degree Granted: BS Biology, 2005

Marvin Perez

Graduate School: University of Miami
Major Field of Study: Pharmacology
Year Began: 2007
Email: mperez11@med.miami.edu
Undergraduate Institution: Florida International University
Degree Granted: BA Chemistry, 2007

Kedrick Perry

Graduate School: University of Virginia
Major Field of Study: Higher Education
Year Began: 2006
Email: kbp7u@virginia.edu
Graduate School: North Carolina State University
Degree Granted: MPA Public Administration, 2006
Undergraduate Institution: University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Degree Granted: BA English, 2004

Mabel Ramirez

Graduate School: University of Colorado at Boulder
Major Field of Study: Electrical Engineering
Year Began: 2004
Admitted to Candidacy: August 2008
Email: ramirezv@colorado.edu
Graduate Institution: University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez
Degree Granted: MS Electrical Engineering, 2003
Undergraduate Institution: University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez
Degree Granted: BS Electrical Engineering, 2002

Ann Marie Russell

Graduate School: Princeton University
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