Invest in the Future of STEM

ABRCMS 2019
ANAHEIM, CALIFORNIA
NOVEMBER 13-16, 2019

Final Program

Funded by:
National Institute of General Medical Sciences

Managed by:
AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR MICROBIOLOGY

RECIPIENT OF THE 2019 AIMBE EXCELLENCE IN STEM EDUCATION AWARD
Rowan University School of Osteopathic Medicine (RowanSOM) is a leader in education, translational research and health care.

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STOP BY
BOOTH
217

RowanSOM is convenient to Philadelphia, New York City and the New Jersey beaches.
Some take the world as they find it. KGI students find ways to improve on it.

Innovators Start Here

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On behalf of the Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students (ABRCMS), I would like to extend a hearty welcome to Anaheim, CA, and the 2019 conference. As the meeting evolves in response to changes over the years, I continue to firmly believe that it is even more imperative that ABRCMS exists. I continue to be heartened and extremely proud that ABRCMS continues its very strong traditions of investment in diversity and inclusion with excellence in STEM.

This long history is fitting for our theme of this year’s meeting, “Invest in the Future of STEM,” with particular focus of our vision of a future that prominently features all of you as fully engaged participants in a career in STEM research. ABRCMS is extremely proud of the place that we play in preparing underrepresented students for a career in STEM research. We know that this may be the first scientific meeting for most of the students, our future leaders, and we want it to be one of many in the future. We strive to inspire our future leaders at this meeting, because they will continue to diversify the biomedical research workforce in ways that represent our society. Only with a diverse scientific workforce, whose future starts now, can we hope to make strides and advances in the issues such as health disparities and personalized medicine that have huge impacts in our communities. Addressing these and other issues will continue to require breakthroughs and new ways of thinking and approaching problems that facilitate these breakthroughs. And a more diverse workforce, with our current and our future leaders playing prominent roles, will accomplish this.

With this in mind, we have assembled an outstanding program that will inspire, challenge and educate. For the future leaders of STEM attending, this is an opportunity to show your preparation and training, step up to the plate, it’s your turn to begin your journey! Take advantage of all that we have prepared for you. For the faculty mentors and advisors, your future leaders are here to shine, and we all encourage and support you in ensuring they make the best of the meeting. We look forward to the exciting science and inspiring words of the presenters, and to hearty conversations with the exhibitors. At ABRCMS, we expect networking, the most cutting edge advances in the biomedical and behavioral sciences, and discussions of some of the most important issues facing minority students as well as professionals as they impact our community.

Everything you see during your time here is the result of hard work of planning and preparation by the ABRCMS Steering Committee, the ASM staff, the exhibitors (make sure to visit the booths!), and many volunteers, who have done a remarkable job to make this meeting possible. They have invested their time and efforts towards the scientific program, evaluating abstracts, and all the planning that goes into hosting your visit, setting up booths and making sure that everything is just right, so that you can experience what I know will be one of the most rewarding meetings of your careers. I would like to thank them all in advance for all their hard work making this meeting a success. Last but certainly not least, we are particularly grateful for the continued support of Division of Training, Workforce Development, and Diversity at the National Institute of General Medical Sciences, NIH, whose funding has continued to make ABRCMS what it is.

With my warmest wishes,

Avery August, Ph.D.
Avery August, Ph.D.
Chairperson, ABRCMS
Become an ASM member
Join the global community committed to advancing microbial sciences through:

Sharing Science • Building Careers • Networking with Peers • Advocating for Science • Improving Global Health • Publishing Peer Reviewed Research

ASM membership provides you access to:

- Cutting edge science
- Professional development opportunities
- Travel awards
- Career resources
- Directory of your peers
- Curriculum guidelines and lab protocol access
- Discounts on ASM events, books and journals publication fees
- Educational courses and webinars

Learn more and choose the membership that best fits your needs at asm.org/membership

1752 N St. NW
Washington, DC 20036

Questions?
Contact service@asmusa.org
Greetings from NIH

On behalf of the National Institutes of Health’s National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS), we’d like to welcome you to the 2019 Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students. We’re very proud to support this meeting, which brings together a community of outstanding students and scientists for stimulating discussions of research, careers, and more.

This meeting is one element of our many activities in the areas of training, workforce development, diversity, and research capacity building. Our NIGMS programs range from the high school level through the undergraduate, graduate, postdoctoral and faculty levels. For example, we support an array of programs to enhance diversity in the biomedical research workforce including Science Education Partnership Awards, Bridges to the Baccalaureate, Building Infrastructure Leading to Diversity, Maximizing Access to Research Careers, Research Training Initiative for Scientific Enhancement, Initiative for Maximizing Student Development, Postbaccalaureate Research Education, Bridges to the Doctorate, Institutional Research and Academic Career Development Awards, Maximizing Opportunities for Scientific and Academic Independent Careers, the Diversity Supplement Program, the Native American Research Centers for Health, the Support of Competitive Research Programs, and the National Research Mentoring Network.

For those of you who are attending as mentors and sponsors, we truly appreciate your dedication and many contributions to your students and our shared goals. For those of you still in training, we hope that your involvement in this meeting further inspires and motivates you to pursue careers in the biomedical research workforce and leadership roles in biomedical science. During your time here, you will gain important allies for your future: a community of peers who will become your colleagues and friends as well as a network of scientists and mentors who are deeply committed to your success in pursuit of a research doctorate and a biomedical career.

We encourage you to make the most of the meeting and take every advantage of the resources and opportunities it offers to help you prepare for the next stages of your research career. We look forward to seeing your presentations and talking to you over the course of the next few days.

Sincerely,
Jon R. Lorsch, Ph.D.
Director, National Institute of General Medical Sciences,
National Institutes of Health

Alison Gammie, Ph.D.
Director, Division of Training, Workforce Development, and Diversity
National Institute of General Medical Sciences,
National Institutes of Health
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13

12:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. .......... Registration Open
1:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. ........ Concurrent Workshops
3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. .......... Concurrent Professional Development Sessions
3:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. ........ Exhibitor Move-In
5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. .......... Concurrent Professional Development Sessions
6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. ......... Networking Dinner and Opening Keynote Address
8:45 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. .......... ABRCMS Travel Awardee Orientation

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14

7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. .......... Registration Open
7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m. .......... Networking Breakfast
8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. ........ Exhibitor Move-In
8:15 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. .......... Mandatory Judges Meeting by Discipline
8:15 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. .......... Orientation for Students
8:15 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. .......... Concurrent Professional Development Sessions
9:15 a.m. – 9:45 a.m. .......... Concurrent Scientific Sessions
10:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. ........ Concurrent Professional Development Sessions
11:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. ........ Concurrent Scientific Sessions
12:15 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. .......... Networking Lunch by Discipline
12:45 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. .......... Plenary Scientific Session
1:45 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. .......... Exhibit and Poster Hall Hours
2:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. .......... Poster Session 1 (A)
3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. .......... Mentoring Coaching
3:30 p.m. – 4:45 p.m. .......... Poster Session 2 (B)
5:30 p.m. – 6:45 p.m. .......... Oral Presentations
7:00 p.m. – 7:45 p.m. .......... Networking Dinner by Discipline
8:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. .......... Gateway to the Future: Career Path Session
8:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. .......... Master’s Level Poster Session/Graduate Students and Postdoctoral Scientists Dessert and Networking Mixer
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15

7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. ............Registration Open
7:00 a.m. – 7:45 a.m. ..........Networking Breakfast
8:00 a.m. – 9:15 a.m. ..........Concurrent Professional Development Sessions
9:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. ..........Concurrent Scientific Sessions
10:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. .........Exhibit and Poster Hall Hours
10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. ..........Mentoring Coaching
10:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. ..........Poster Session 3 (C)
12:15 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. ..........Networking Lunch by Discipline
1:00 p.m. – 1:45 p.m. ..........Plenary Scientific Session
2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. ..........Concurrent Professional Development Sessions
3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. ..........Exhibit and Poster Hall Hours
3:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. ..........Poster Session 4 (D)
3:45 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. ..........Mentoring Showcase
4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. ..........Mentoring Coaching
4:45 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. ..........Poster Session 5 (E)
6:15 p.m. – 7:15 p.m. ..........Concurrent Professional Development Sessions
6:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. ..........Networking Events

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16

7:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. ..........Registration Open
7:00 a.m. – 7:45 a.m. ..........Networking Breakfast
8:00 a.m. – 9:15 a.m. ..........Oral Presentations
9:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. .........Exhibit and Poster Hall Hours
9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. ..........Mentoring Coaching
11:00 a.m. – 11:50 a.m. ..........Exhibitor Showcase
10:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. ..........Poster Session 6 (F)
12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. ..........Exhibitor Move-Out
12:15 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. ..........Networking Lunch
1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. ..........Closing Keynote Address
2:15 p.m. – 2:45 p.m. ..........Concurrent Scientific Sessions
3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. ..........Concurrent Professional Development Sessions
4:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. ..........FREE TIME!
7:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. ..........Banquet and Awards Ceremony
10:00 p.m. – 2:00 a.m. ..........Dance and Social (all are invited)
ABRCMS Steering Committee

Avery August, Ph.D.
Chairperson
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University of California, Los Angeles

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  The City College of New York
- Cherrie Butts, Ph.D.
  Biogen
- Victoria McGovern, Ph.D.
  Burroughs Wellcome Fund
Orientation: How to Make the Best of a Scientific Meeting

ABRCMS orientation will help maximize your learning and networking opportunities throughout the conference. Orientation will be held on **Thursday, November 14, from 8:15 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. in Ballroom A-E.**

ABRCMS Mobile App

Get the latest conference program, exhibitor information, conference maps and much more at your fingertips with the ABRCMS Mobile App. Search for ABRCMS in your app store.

Dining Plan

The daily dining plan is included in the registration fee. Registration includes the following meals:

- **Wednesday:** Dinner
- **Thursday:** Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner
- **Friday:** Breakfast and Lunch
- **Saturday:** Breakfast, Lunch and Awards Banquet

**Note:** The most common food allergens have been avoided to the best extent. Please read the food labels carefully on the buffets. Many of the items on the buffets and plated meals will accommodate gluten-free and dairy-free diets.

ADA

Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you require services or aids to participate fully in ABRCMS, please visit the main registration desk.

Awards Banquet and Ceremony

The Awards Banquet & Ceremony is **Saturday, November 16 from 7:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.** The ceremony will begin promptly at 7:30 p.m.

Wi-Fi at ABRCMS

Great news! Free Wi-Fi is available in the exhibit hall, session rooms, and convention center hallways. This service has been brought to you by ABRCMS and the American Society for Microbiology.

- **NETWORK ID:** ABRCMS
- **PASSWORD:** ABRCMS2019

Name Badge Policy & Badge Replacement

All ABRCMS attendees are required to wear conference badges onsite at all times. Badges give you access to sessions, the exhibit hall, and workshops. It is your responsibility to ensure that you have your badge at all times. There is a charge of $25 for badge replacement. No exceptions will be made.

Evaluation

This year, we are re-implementing real-time evaluation during sessions. Please take a few minutes to complete your evaluation in the mobile app at the end of each session you attend. A post-conference evaluation will be emailed to all attendees following the conference. We value your feedback. Every completed evaluation helps us improve future conferences.
**Cell Phone Usage**
Out of consideration for your ABRCMS colleagues, all cell phones must be turned off in session rooms.

**Networking Lunch by Discipline**
Networking sessions will be held **Thursday and Friday from 12:15 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.** These lunch sessions offer a forum for small–group discussions focused on the student activities and career pathways offered by societies. All ABRCMS exhibitors and faculty attendees who are within the 12 scientific disciplines are strongly encouraged to attend.

**Photo Policy**
By registering for ABRCMS, you agree to allow ASM/ABRCMS to use any photos taken of you during the conference in news media, website, publications, articles, marketing pieces, etc. In order to protect data shared during presentations, no photos may be taken of posters or scientific session slides at ABRCMS.

**Dress Code**
ABRCMS attendees are expected to dress professionally for all conference activities.

**ABRCMS Code of Conduct**
The Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students (“ABRCMS”), managed by the American Society for Microbiology (“ASM”), is one of the nation’s largest conferences for underrepresented students in STEM. ABRCMS is committed to providing an environment that encourages the free expression and exchange of scientific ideas and promotes equal opportunities and respectful treatment for all participants. All participants are expected to treat others with respect and consideration, follow venue rules, and alert ASM/ABRCMS staff or security of any dangerous situations or anyone in distress.

ABRCMS prohibits and will not tolerate any form of harassment or bullying at its events. This policy applies to all attendees, speakers, exhibitors, contractors, volunteers, and guests at ABRCMS. Violation of this code of conduct may result in the participant being asked to leave the event at which the incident occurred, without warning or refund; being barred from attending ABRCMS in the future.

If a participant experiences or witness harassment, please follow the protocol at abrcms.org/code–of–conduct or contact an ASM/ABRCMS staff (identifiable by staff badge) as soon as possible or contact security.

**Designated Rooms**
All rooms will be available from **Wednesday, November 13 through Saturday, November 16.**

- **Speaker Ready Room** .......................... 205 A
- **Judges Lounge** ................................. 207 AB
- **FASEB and Self-Practice** .................. 213 AB
  *(Poster Presentation Practice Room)*
- **FASEB and Self-Practice** .................. 213 C
  *(Oral Presentation Practice Room)*
- **ADA Resource Room** ....................... 205 B
- **Exam Room** .................................. 211 B
- **First Aid Room** .............................. Registration Area
- **Lactation Room** ............................... 109
- **Prayer/Meditation Room** ............... 201 C
- **General Study Room** ....................... 212 A
  *(Note: Please check your hotel for other available study rooms.)*

**Exam Room**
To accommodate students who need to take exams while at the conference, please visit the Registration Area to sign-up accordingly.
College/University Spirit Day
On Wednesday, November 13, represent your institution by sporting your school jacket, t-shirt, tie, polo, and etc. Don’t forget to show off your school spirit on the ABRCMS Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook pages using #ABRCMS.

Concurrent Scientific Sessions
ABRCMS has enhanced the 2019 conference program by expanding the scientific content. More than 30 sessions across 12 scientific disciplines will be shared with the STEM community by experts who have a breadth of knowledge on emerging scientific concepts.

- Thursday, November 14: 9:15 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.
- Thursday, November 14: 11:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
- Friday, November 15: 9:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
- Saturday, November 16: 2:15 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.

Gateway to the Future:
Career Paths in the Biomedical Sciences, STEM Disciplines, and Behavioral Sciences
(Child-Sponsored by ASM and Genentech)
On Thursday, November 14 from 8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., research scientists and representatives from a variety of career sectors will engage students in small group discussions focused on “a day in the life of a scientist.” They will discuss their career pathways and educational backgrounds, what they enjoy about their work, and their strategies for professional and personal life balance. Career sectors include pharma/biotechnology/industry, media/communications, research intensive academic/staff scientist, undergraduate liberal arts academic/community college, academic medicine, and government/policy/foundation/law.

Presentation Practice and Peer Mentoring Sessions
(Sponsored in Partnership with FASEB)
The FASEB MARC Program will sponsor poster/oral presentation practice and peer mentoring sessions for students presenting at ABRCMS 2019. These practice sessions are scheduled for 30-minute periods. Students MUST sign up at the FASEB Peer-Mentoring Office in Room 211 A in advance.

FASEB Mentors
- Laura de Lorenzo Barrios
  St. Thomas University
- Tyesha Nicole Burks
  Bowie State University
- Sarah Deemer
  University of Alabama, Birmingham
- Felicia Emery
  St. Charles Community College
- Devyn Dior Gillette
  Bowie State University
- Kamilah E. Grant
  Alcorn State University
- Oliver T. Jenkins, Jr.
  Virginia Department of Health
- L’Aurelle A. Johnson
  University of Minnesota
- Michelle Tatom Juarez
  Howard Hughes Medical Institute
- LeeCole Legette
  Pharmavite, LLC
- Shaun Marie Logan
  Texas A&M University College of Dentistry
- Noraida Martinez-Rivera
  University of Kansas
- Melissa Mason
  Alcorn State University
Melanie R. McReynolds  
*Princeton University*

Kimberly Xaviera Mulligan-Guy  
*Auburn University*

Chloé Nerissa Poston  
*Brown University*

Kennie Raviie Shepherd  
*Morehouse School of Medicine*

Jayne Stewart Reuben  
*Texas A&M University College of Dentistry*

Tracy A. Womble  
*Florida A&M University*

**FASEB Practice Room Hours**

- **Wednesday, November 13:** 1:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
- **Thursday, November 14:** 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.
- **Friday, November 15:** 8:00 a.m. - 8:30 p.m.
- **Saturday, November 16:** 7:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

**FASEB/General Practice Locations**

- **Poster Practice:** Room 213 AB
- **Oral Practice:** Room 213 C

**Mentoring Coaching Sessions**  
*(Recommended for all students)*

Come discuss the ins and outs of mentoring, within and outside the research environment. Several mentors will host a table and provide coaching during Exhibit and Poster Hall hours. First time attendees should be especially mindful that first impressions are critical at the beginning of their careers.

**Group Coaching Times:**

- **Thursday, November 14:** 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- **Friday, November 15:** 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
- **Friday, November 15:** 4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
- **Saturday, November 16:** 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

**Mentoring Showcase**  
Students Utilizing Mentoring as a Personal Developmental Strategy  
*(Recommended for all students)*

Join us in the Exhibit and Poster Hall for a discussion about the value of mentoring, including strategies, tools, and protocols for utilizing a mentor and participating in a mentorship alliance. This will be held on **Friday, November 15,** from 3:45 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Exhibit Hall Theater.

**2019 ABRCMS Mentors**

- **Howard G. Adams, Ph.D.**  
  *Howard G. Adams & Associates*
- **Keshia Ashe, Ph.D.**  
  *Many Mentors, National Science Foundation (NSF)*
- **Earnestine Baker M.A.**  
  *University of Maryland, Baltimore County*
- **Judy Blumenthal, Ph.D.,**  
  *Montgomery College*
- **Peter Gannett, Ph.D.**  
  *Nova Southeastern University College of Pharmacy*
- **Herbert Geller, Ph.D.**  
  *National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NIH)*
- **Aziza Glass, D.V.M.**  
  *Personal Touch Veterinary Clinic, PLLC*
- **Patrice Gregory, Ph.D.**  
  *Sandia National Labs*
- **Marcus Huggans, Ph.D.**  
  *GEM Fellowship*
- **Adrian Land, Ph.D.**  
  *Procter & Gamble*
- **Amy Maki, M.Ed.**  
  *A.O. Maki & Associates*
- **Daniel Miranda, Jr., Ph.D.**  
  *Amgen*
- **Beronda Montgomery, Ph.D.**  
  *Michigan State University*
- Ofelia Olivero, Ph.D.  
  National Cancer Institute (NCI)
- Joel Oppenheim, Ph.D.  
  NYU School of Medicine
- Marquitta Qualls, Ph.D.  
  Entropia Consulting
- Juan Ramírez-Lugo, Ph.D.  
  University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras
- Delira Robbins, Ph.D.  
  University of Tennessee Research Foundation
- Cheryl Rowe-Rendleman, Ph.D.  
  Omar Consulting Group, LLC
- David Sanchez, Ph.D.  
  Western University of Health Sciences
- Tori Strong, Ph.D.  
  Vyripharm Biopharmaceuticals
- Iris Wagstaff, Ph.D.  
  American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS)
- Sylvia Wilson Thomas, Ph.D.  
  University of South Florida
- Patrice Yarbough, Ph.D.  
  NASA

**Master’s Level Poster Session/Graduate Students and Postdoctoral Scientists Dessert and Networking Mixer**

**Thursday, November 14:**
8:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

**Exhibit Passport**
Participate in the exhibit hall passport program to win prizes. See page 47–48 for details.

**Exhibitor Showcase**
Join us in the Exhibit and Poster Hall for the Exhibitor Showcases, where you can hear directly from the exhibitors. These innovative 20-minute presentations will be held on **Saturday, November 16, from 11:00 a.m. to 11:50 a.m. in the Exhibit Hall Theater.**

**11:00 a.m. – 11:20 a.m.**
- Institution: St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences
- Session Title: Information About Our Ph.D. and MD/Ph.D. Programs and Offer Tips for a Top Application

**11:30 a.m. – 11:50 a.m.**
- Institution: Emory University, Laney Graduate School
- Session Title: Laney Graduate School at Emory University: Striving for Excellence and Diversity

**Exam Room**
To accommodate students who need to take exams while at the conference, please visit the Registration Area to sign-up accordingly.

**ABRCMS Online**
Your ABRCMS experience no longer has to end on the last day of the conference.

ABRCMS Online is an extension of the conference that allows you and your students to continue learning, with webinars that explore professional development, diversity, and scientific topics. Take advantage of this opportunity to stay connected.

The full webinar schedule is available at abrcms.org/online.
**FOR EXHIBITORS**

**Move-In**
- Wednesday, November 13: 3:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
- Thursday, November 14: 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

**Exhibitor Hours**
- Thursday, November 14: 1:45 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.
- Friday, November 15: 10:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
- Saturday, November 16: 9:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

**Early Admittance into Exhibit Hall**
Your exhibitor badge allows you access to the Exhibit Hall 30 minutes prior to the opening of the Exhibit Hall. Due to security, you will not be allowed to enter the Exhibit Hall earlier than 30 minutes or anytime outside of exhibit hours. Please plan accordingly.

**Exhibitor Services Area**
This is where exhibitors can find the exhibitor lounge, Freeman, Smart City(Internet), PSAV and Experient(Lead Retrieval) service desks. The exhibitor area can be found on the left hand side of the exhibit hall near the restrooms.

**Exhibitor Lounge**
Complimentary beverages are available to all Exhibitors in the Exhibitor Lounge located in the Exhibitor Service Area during the following times:
- Wednesday, November 13: 3:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
- Thursday, November 14: 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- Friday, November 15: 9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
- Saturday, November 16: 8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

**Leaving Early**
We encourage you to stay the duration of the conference. Students are expecting your full participation. Exhibitors who wish to leave early will be responsible for the shipment of their materials. Freeman will only ship materials for exhibitors on the last day of the conference.

**Move-Out**
- Saturday, November 16: 12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
FOR JUDGES

Judges Lounge
Room: 207 AB

- Wednesday, November 13:
  12:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
- Thursday, November 14:
  7:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.
- Friday, November 15:
  7:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.
- Saturday, November 16:
  7:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Mandatory Judge Meeting by Discipline
- Thursday, November 14:
  8:15 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

Speakers, Exhibitors, Judges, and Program Directors
Networking Social
- Friday, November 15:
  6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Important Reminder:
- Judges’ score submissions are due by 12:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 16

“ABRCMS allows underprivileged and underrepresented students the opportunity to practice/learn skills like presenting their research to push them further in their career.”
ABRCMS offers many opportunities for networking. Join colleagues with similar interest to share ideas and develop research collaborations. Networking is strongly encouraged throughout the conference; however, attendees are asked to sit in their respective disciplines during lunch and dinner on Thursday, and during lunch on Friday. Disciplines tables are identified by table colors. See table below.
ABRCMS Supporters

ABRCMS would like to recognize the following universities and organizations for their support of ABRCMS 2019.

Major Conference Sponsors

Diamond Sponsor
- UCLA Graduate Programs in Bioscience

Platinum Sponsor
- University of Alabama at Birmingham

Gold Sponsors
- NYU School of Medicine, Sackler Institute of Graduate Biomedical Sciences
- Society of Toxicology
- University of California, Irvine
- University of South Florida

Silver Sponsors
- Columbia University Medical Center
- Howard Hughes Medical Institution (HHMI)
- Medical College of Wisconsin Graduate School & Medical Scientist Training Program (MD/Ph.D.)
- Medical College of Wisconsin Pharmacy and Medical School
- Novartis Institutes for BioMedical Research
- University of California, San Diego
- University of Kansas - Graduate Studies and Self Graduate Fellowship
- University of Minnesota Biomedical Sciences Graduate Programs
- University of Minnesota Medical Scientist Training Program
- Weill Cornell Graduate School of Medical Sciences

Bronze Sponsors
- American Association for the Advancement of Science
- American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
- Emory University/Graduate Division of Biological and Biomedical Sciences
- Genentech, Inc.
- Graduate School, Oregon State University
- Northeastern University
- Regeneron Pharmaceuticals
- St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences
- The University of Texas at San Antonio – The Graduate School
- University of Arizona Biological and Biomedical Sciences
- University of Illinois Bioengineering
- University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine
- University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Medicine and Public Health
- Worcester Polytechnic Institute
PLENARY SCIENTIFIC SESSION:
Power in Numbers: Unveiling Hidden Figures
Talithia Williams, Ph.D.
Harvey Mudd College, Claremont, CA

Wednesday, November 13
7:45 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

PLENARY SCIENTIFIC SESSION:
Hip Hop Stroke: An Investigator Initiated NIH-Funded Journey
Olajide Williams, M.D., M.S.
Columbia University Medical Center/New York Presbyterian Hospital, New York, NY

Thursday, November 14
12:45 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

PLENARY SCIENTIFIC SESSION:
The Impact of Heterogeneity in Cancer Genome Science
John D. Carpten, Ph.D.
University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA

Friday, November 15
1:00 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.

CLOSING KEYNOTE ADDRESS:
An Afternoon with Soledad O’Brien: Her Life Stories
Soledad O’Brien
Award-Winning Journalist, Entrepreneur & Host of the Weekly Syndicated Political Show “Matter of Fact with Soledad O’Brien”

Saturday, November 16
1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Utilizing Structural Biology to Combat Disease
Celia Goulding, Ph.D., University of California, Irvine, CA

Understanding Phenotypic Variation: Lessons from Developmental Disorders
Eliezer Calo, Ph.D., Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA

Skin Cancer Disparities: More Than Just Skin-Deep
Masaoki Kawasumi, M.D., Ph.D., University of Washington, Seattle, WA

Atomic-scale Imaging and Spectroscopy of Materials for Electrochemical Energy Conversion and Storage
William J. Bowman, Ph.D., University of California, Irvine, Irvine, CA

The Role of Rhomboid Pseudoproteases in Protein Homeostasis
Sonya Neal, Ph.D., University of California, San Diego, San Diego, CA

Our Mysterious Immune System: Is There an On/Off Switch?
Hossam Ashour, Ph.D., University of South Florida St. Petersburg, St. Petersburg, FL

Analytical Chemistry in Pharmaceutical Development
Jose Cintron, Ph.D., Eli Lilly & Company, Indianapolis, IN

Our Mysterious Immune System: Is There an On/Off Switch?
Hatem A. Elshabrawy, B.S. Pharm., Ph.D., Sam Houston State University, College of Osteopathic Medicine, Huntsville, TX

Understanding Diseases with Computational and Systems Biology
Dana Crawford, Ph.D., Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH

The World’s Smallest Hunter Taking Down the Deadliest Human Pathogens
Daniel Kadouri, Ph.D., Rutgers School of Dental Medicine, Newark, NJ

Understanding Diseases with Computational and Systems Biology
Olanrewaju Morenikeji, Ph.D., Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, NY

The World’s Smallest Hunter Taking Down the Deadliest Human Pathogens
Henry Williams, Ph.D., Florida A&M University, Tallahassee, FL
When Microengineering Meets Physiology: Thrombosis-on-Chip
Monicah Otieno, Ph.D., Janssen Pharmaceuticals/Society of Toxicology, Reston, VA

Staying Woke, Part 1: The Neurobiology of Sleep Disturbances in Autism
Lucia Peixoto, Ph.D., Washington State University, Pullman, WA

Sign of the Times: Time Based Methods for Measuring Vocabulary Knowledge
Rihana Mason, Ph.D., Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA

“ABRCMS gives me hope that there will be a diverse scientific workforce in the future.”

Hydrogen Sulfide (H2S) in Humans: Physiology, Biochemistry, and Relevance
Juan López-Garriga, Ph.D., University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez Campus, Mayagüez, Puerto Rico

Adapting an Evolutionary Model for Microbiota Studies: Diversity Matters
Kat Milligan-Myhre, Ph.D., University of Alaska Anchorage, Anchorage, AK

How Do Cancer Cells Communicate with the Host
Renumathy Dhanasekaran, M.D., Stanford University, Stanford, CA

Epigenetics: Pushing the Boundaries of Memory
Marcelo Wood, Ph.D., University of California, Irvine, Irvine, CA

Understanding Genetic Variation: Three Cutting-Edge Research Studies in Diverse Populations
Neil Hanchard, M.D., Ph.D., Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX

The Intelligent Bladder Urothelium: Not Just a Passive Barrier
Bahareh Vahabi, Ph.D., University of the West of England, Bristol, UK

Understanding Genetic Variation: Three Cutting-Edge Research Studies in Diverse Populations
Cristina de Guzman Strong, Ph.D., Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, MO

Partnering with Communities to Improve Cardiovascular Health Equity
Elizabeth Lynch, Ph.D., Rush University Medical Center, Chicago, IL

ABRCMS gives me hope that there will be a diverse scientific workforce in the future.”

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14 | 9:15 A.M. – 9:45 A.M. (cont.)

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14 | 11:30 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.
Listening to Enzymes Sing
Gregory A. Weiss, Ph.D., University of California, Irvine, Irvine, CA

Am I Potent?: Biological Activity Determination of Drugs Using Cell Based Assays
Jeanne Helmreich, Ph.D., Eli Lilly and Company, Indianapolis, IN

Obesity, Immunity, and Impact on CAR T-cell Immunotherapy
Curtis Henry, Ph.D., Emory University, School of Medicine, Atlanta, GA

Trim the Fat: The Role of Lipids in Cancer Development
Glenn Simmons, Jr., Ph.D., University of Minnesota Medical School, Minneapolis, MN

Diversity-generating Retroelements and the Accelerated Evolution of Adaptive Traits
Jeffrey F. Miller, Ph.D., University of California, Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA

NAD+ Metabolism during Aging: Insight from Quantitative Flux Analysis
Melanie McReynolds, Ph.D., Princeton University, Princeton, NJ

A Lot of Nerve! Evolutionary Mechanisms of Neural Regeneration
Wendy Beane, Ph.D., Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI

Twists and Turns Along the Path of Reactivity-driven Methods Development
Hosea Nelson, Ph.D., University of California, Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA

Integrating Genomics and Epigenomics for the Identification of Novel Cancer Therapeutics
Claudia Benavente, Ph.D., University of California, Irvine, Irvine, CA
Functional Cancer Cell Maps
Jason Kreisberg, Ph.D., University of California, San Diego, San Diego, CA

The Perils of Underrepresentation: What Research Tells Us about the Future of Broad-based Genetic Testing
Latrice Landry, M.S., Ph.D., Harvard Medical School and Harvard School of Public Health, Boston, MA

Being surrounded by intelligent, motivated, and driven people of similar backgrounds was not only encouraging, but reassuring.”

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16 | 2:15 P.M. – 2:45 P.M.

The Social Lives of Mitochondria: Inter-organelle Membrane Contacts as Signaling Platforms
Samantha Lewis, Ph.D., University of California, Davis, Davis, CA

Deconvoluting Disease Biomarkers with Computational Biology Tools
Felix Rivera-Mariani, Ph.D., Larkin University, Miami, FL

Metastasis: The Unbeatable Beast?
Diana Cittelly, Ph.D., University of Colorado, Anschutz Medical Campus, Aurora, CO

Catching Anxiety: The Impact of HSV-1 on Animal Behavior
Gerald Griffin, Ph.D., Hope College, Holland, MI

Genetic and Behavioral Interrogation of Pain Neural Circuits
Ishmail Abdus-Saboor, Ph.D., University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA

Staying Woke, Part 2: The Neurobiology of Normal Sleep and Arousal
Chicora Oliver, Ph.D., Emory University, Atlanta, GA

Deconvoluting Disease Biomarkers with Computational Biology Tools
Andre Hudson, Ph.D., Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, NY

“It provides a very tight-knit support system for minority success.”
Wednesday, November 13

**Workshops**
(4 Session Options)

1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.  201 A

**SESSION 1**
The Leadership Alliance Strategic Planning Listening Session
(By Invitation Only)

**SPEAKER**
- Medeva Ghee, Ph.D., The Leadership Alliance, Providence, RI

1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.  202 AB

**SESSION 2**
Addressing the Mental Health, Wellness and Resilience of STEM Students
(Recommended for postdoctoral scientists, faculty, program directors, and exhibitors)

**SPEAKERS**
- Sharon Milgram, Ph.D., National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD
- Annie Scheiner, LCMFT, Wellness Advisor-OITE, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD
- Michael J. Sheridan, Ph.D., National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD

1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.  203 AB

**SESSION 3**
Building Bridges, Creating Allies: Confronting Questions of Privilege and Power in an Age of Polarization
(Recommended for postdoctoral scientists, faculty, program directors, and exhibitors)

**SPEAKERS**
- Richard J. Prystowsky, Ph.D., Marion Technical College, Marion OH

1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.  210 B

**SESSION 4**
Fair Play Workshop: Train the Trainer
(Recommended for postdoctoral scientists, faculty, program directors, and exhibitors)

**SPEAKERS**
- Percy Brown, M.S.Ed., University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI
- Donald Dantzler, M.S.Ed., University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI
- Christine Maidl-Pribbenow, Ph.D., University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI

**Concurrent Professional Development Sessions**
(4 Session Options)

3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.  204 AB

**SESSION 1**
Presentation Techniques: How to Make Effective Poster and Oral Presentations
(Recommended for first-time presenters and non-presenters)

**SPEAKER**
- Shelley Payne, Ph.D., University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX

3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.  206 AB

**SESSION 2**
Build Your Personal Statement ★
(Recommended all students)

**SPEAKERS**
- Victoria Freedman, Ph.D., Albert Einstein College of Medicine, New York, NY
- Nancy Schwartz, Ph.D., University of Chicago, Chicago, IL

**REPEAT SESSIONS ARE DENOTED BY ★**
SESSION 3
The Ins and Outs of Graduate School Panel Discussion
(Recommended for community college, undergraduate, and postbaccalaureate students)
MODERATOR
Nicquet Blake, Ph.D., UT Health San Antonio, San Antonio, TX
SPEAKERS
Graduate School Panelists

SESSION 4
No Means No: Let Harassers and Bullies Know You’re NOT a Target
(Recommended for all graduate students, faculty, postdoctoral scientists, program directors, and exhibitors)
SPEAKER
Sherry Marts, S*Marts Consulting, Washington, DC

Concurrent Professional Development Sessions
(13 Session Options)

SESSION 1
Networking in Your Scientific Discipline: Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
(Recommended for all students)
FACILITATORS
Charles Bevins, M.D., Ph.D., University of California, Davis, Davis, CA
Candice Etson, Ph.D., Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT
Gustavo Silva, Ph.D., Duke University, Durham, NC

SESSION 2
Networking in Your Scientific Discipline: Cancer Biology
(Recommended for all students)
FACILITATORS
Manu Platt, Ph.D., Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA
Luisel Ricks-Santi, Ph.D., Hampton University, Hampton, VA

SESSION 3
Networking in Your Scientific Discipline: Cell Biology
(Recommended for all students)
FACILITATORS
Gustavo Arrizabalaga, Ph.D., Indiana University School of Medicine, Indianapolis, IN
Brent Berwin, Ph.D., Dartmouth Medical School, Hanover, NH
Tracy Johnson, Ph.D., University of California, Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA

SESSION 4
Networking in Your Scientific Discipline: Chemistry
(Recommended for all students)
FACILITATORS
Squire Booker, Ph.D., The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA
Claudio Ortiz, Ph.D.
Laura Sanchez, Ph.D., University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, IL

SESSION 5
Networking in Your Scientific Discipline: Computational and Systems Biology
(Recommended for all students)
FACILITATORS
Dana Crawford, Ph.D., Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH
Jeanette Papp, Ph.D., University of California, Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA
Bolaji Thomas, Ph.D., Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, NY

SESSION 6
Networking in Your Scientific Discipline: Developmental Biology and Genetics
(Recommended for all students)
FACILITATORS
Cristian Aguilar, Ph.D., Azusa Pacific University, Azusa, CA
SESSION 7
Networking in Your Scientific Discipline: Engineering, Physics, and Mathematics
(Recommended all students)
FACILITATORS
- Tyrell Carr, Ph.D., Saint Augustine University, Raleigh, NC
- Marlene de la Cruz, Ph.D., University of California, Irvine, Irvine, CA

SESSION 8
Networking in Your Scientific Discipline: Immunology
(Recommended all students)
FACILITATORS
- Angela Alexander-Bryant, Ph.D., Clemson University, Clemson, SC
- Rafael Diaz-Escamilla, Ph.D., California State University, Sacramento, Sacramento, CA
- Abiraman Srinivasan, Ph.D., Community College of Allegheny County, Pittsburgh, PA

SESSION 9
Networking in Your Scientific Discipline: Microbiology
Sponsored by American Society for Microbiology
Light refreshments will be served.
(Recommended all students)
FACILITATORS
- Danielle Graham, Ph.D., Fayetteville State University, Fayetteville, NC
- Michael Johnson, Ph.D., University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ
- Alfredo Torres, Ph.D., University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, TX

SESSION 10
Networking in Your Scientific Discipline: Neuroscience
(Recommended all students)
FACILITATORS
- Michael Burton, Ph.D., University of Texas at Dallas, Dallas, TX
- Ramesh Raghupathi, Ph.D., Drexel University, Philadelphia, PA
- Crystal Watkins, M.D., Ph.D., The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, MD

SESSION 11
Networking in Your Scientific Discipline: Physiology and Pharmacology
(Recommended all students)
FACILITATORS
- TanYa Gwathmey-Williams, Ph.D., Wake Forest School of Medicine, Winston-Salem, NC
- Amanda Marie James, Ph.D., Emory University, Atlanta, GA

SESSION 12
Networking in Your Scientific Discipline: Social and Behavioral Sciences and Public Health
(Recommended all students)
FACILITATORS
- David Córdova, Ph.D., University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
- Karen Singer-Freeman, Ph.D., University of North Carolina, Charlotte, Charlotte, NC

SESSION 13
The GRE and Graduate Admissions: Are We Asking the Wrong Questions
(Recommended for faculty, program directors, and exhibitors)
SPEAKERS
- Anthony DePass, Ph.D., Understanding Interventions/Long Island University, Long Island University, Brooklyn, NY
- Daryl Chubin, Ph.D., Understanding Interventions/Independent Consultant, Savannah, GA
Network dining

Conference Overview and Highlights
- John Fitzgerald Gates, Ph.D., Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

Chairperson Opening Remarks
- Avery August, Ph.D., Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine, Ithaca, NY
- Jonathan Stevens-Garcia, M.P.H., M.B.A., Chief Operating Officer, American Society for Microbiology, Washington, DC
- Alison Gammie, Ph.D., National Institute of General Medical Sciences, NIH, Bethesda, MD

PLENARY SCIENTIFIC SESSION
Opening Keynote Address — Power in Numbers: Unveiling Hidden Figures
- MODERATOR: John Fitzgerald Gates, Ph.D., Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN
- SPEAKER: Talithia Williams, Ph.D., Harvey Mudd College, Claremont, CA

ABRCMS Travel Award Orientation

PREP Scholars Meet & Greet
(By Invitation Only)

Thursday, November 14

Breakfast/No Means No: Let Harassers and Bullies Know You’re NOT a Target ★
(Recommended for all students)

SPEAKER
- Sherry Marts, S*Marts Consulting, Washington, DC

Concurrent Professional Development Sessions
(3 Session Options)

SESSION 1
Mandatory Judge Meeting by Discipline
(For Oral and Poster Judges only)
- Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
- Cancer Biology
- Cell Biology
- Chemistry
- Computational and Systems Biology
- Developmental Biology and Genetics
- Engineering, Physics and Mathematics
- Immunology
- Microbiology
- Neuroscience
- Physiology and Pharmacology
- Social and Behavioral Sciences and Public Health

SESSION 2
Orientation: How to Make the Best of a Scientific Meeting
(Mandatory for community college, undergraduate, and postbaccalaureate students)

SPEAKER
- Sandra Murray, Ph.D., University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA

SESSION 3
Unique NIH Funding Opportunities You Should Know
(Recommended for graduate students and postdoctoral scientists)

SPEAKERS
- Ravi Basavappa, Ph.D., National Institutes of Health, Office of Strategic Coordination, Rockville, MD
THE PROGRAM

Concurrent Scientific Sessions
(12 Session Options)

9:15 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.  204 AB
SESSION 1
Utilizing Structural Biology to Combat Disease
Discipline: Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
SPEAKER
■ Celia Goulding, Ph.D., University of California, Irvine, CA

9:15 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.  208 AB
SESSION 2
Skin Cancer Disparities: More Than Just Skin-Deep
Discipline: Cancer Biology
SPEAKER
■ Masaoki Kawasumi, M.D., Ph.D., University of Washington, Seattle, WA

9:15 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.  209 AB
SESSION 3
The Role of Rhomboid Pseudoproteases in Protein Homeostasis
Discipline: Cell Biology
SPEAKER
■ Sonya Neal, Ph.D., University of California, San Diego, San Diego, CA

9:15 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.  206 AB
SESSION 4
Analytical Chemistry in Pharmaceutical Development
Discipline: Chemistry
SPEAKER
■ Jose Cintron, Ph.D., Eli Lilly & Company, Indianapolis, IN

9:15 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.  210 A
SESSION 5
Understanding Diseases with Computational and Systems Biology
Discipline: Computational and Systems Biology
SPEAKERS
■ Dana Crawford, Ph.D., Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH
■ Olanrewaju Morenikeji, Ph.D., Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, NY

9:15 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.  204 C
SESSION 6
Understanding Phenotypic Variation: Lessons from Developmental Disorders
Discipline: Developmental Biology and Genetics
SPEAKER
■ Eliezer Calo, Ph.D., Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA

9:15 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.  210 D
SESSION 7
Atomic-scale Imaging and Spectroscopy of Materials for Electrochemical Energy Conversion and Storage
Discipline: Engineering, Physics, and Math
SPEAKER
■ William J. Bowman, Ph.D., University of California, Irvine, Irvine, CA

9:15 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.  210 B
SESSION 8
Our Mysterious Immune System: Is There an On/Off Switch?
Discipline: Immunology
SPEAKERS
■ Hossm Ashour, Ph.D., University of South Florida St. Petersburg, St. Petersburg, FL
■ Hatem A. Elshabrawy, B.S. Pharm., Ph.D., Sam Houston State University, College of Osteopathic Medicine, Huntsville, TX
THE PROGRAM

9:15 a.m. - 9:45 a.m. 203 AB
SESSION 9
The World’s Smallest Hunter Taking Down the Deadliest Human Pathogens
Discipline: Microbiology

SPEAKERS
- Daniel Kadouri, Ph.D., Rutgers School of Dental Medicine, Newark, NJ
- Henry Williams, Ph.D., Florida A&M University, Tallahassee, FL

9:15 a.m. - 9:45 a.m. 207 CD
SESSION 10
Staying Woke, Part 1: The Neurobiology of Sleep Disturbances in Autism
Discipline: Neuroscience

SPEAKER
- Lucia Peixoto, Ph.D., Washington State University, Pullman, WA

9:15 a.m. - 9:45 a.m. 210 C
SESSION 11
When Microengineering Meets Physiology: Thrombosis-on-Chip
Discipline: Physiology and Pharmacology

SPEAKER
- Monicah Otieno, Ph.D., Janssen Pharmaceuticals/Society of Toxicology, Reston, VA

9:15 a.m. - 9:45 a.m. 202 AB
SESSION 12
Sign of the Times: Time Based Methods for Measuring Vocabulary Knowledge
Discipline: Social and Behavioral Sciences and Public Health

SPEAKER
- Rihana Mason, Ph.D., Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA

Concurrent Professional Development Sessions
(8 Session Options)

10:00 a.m. - 11:15 a.m. 210 A
SESSION 1
NIGMS Program Director Discussions (Track 1)
(Recommended for TWD program directors)
Diversity-focused, primarily undergraduate programs with an emphasis on:
- Student Tracking
- Student Support (while in training programs and beyond)
- Student Research Training Activities
- Dissemination - Sharing of Training Approaches/Activities

10:00 a.m. - 11:15 a.m. 210 B
SESSION 2
NIGMS Program Director Discussions (Track 2)
(Recommended for TWD program directors)
Post-bac, Graduate and Postdoc topics focused on:
- Developing Achievable and - Measurable Training Objectives
- Employing Evidence-Based Practices for Training and Mentoring
- Teaching Rigor and Transparency as well as Responsible Conduct of Research Throughout
- Focusing on Trainee Skills Development
- Emphasizing that Diversity and Inclusion is Essential for Training Excellence
- Preparing Trainees for a Broad Range of Careers in the Biomedical Research Workforce

10:00 a.m. - 11:15 a.m. 203 AB
SESSION 3
Creating An Online Toolkit for Supporting Nontraditional Student Success Succeed 2.0
(Recommended for all attendees)

SPEAKERS
- Morgan Hull, LLMSW, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
M.D. – Ph.D., Is it Right for Me?  
(Recommended for students interested in the M.D., Ph.D. track)

**MODERATOR**
Janice Reuben, B.A., University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

**PANELISTS**
- Janice L. Merchant, M.D., Ph.D., University of Arizona-Cancer Center, Tucson, AZ
- Lindsay Agostinelli, M.D., Ph.D. Student, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA
- Daniel Akuma, M.D., Ph.D. Student, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA
- Kerry O’Banion, M.D., Ph.D., University of Rochester, Rochester, NY
- Javier Sierra Pagan, M.D., Ph.D. Student, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN
- Briana Wilson, M.D., Ph.D. Student, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA

10:00 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.  # 204 AB

**SESSION 5**
Picking the Perfect Ph.D. Program for You: Why Choose a School with a T32?  
(Recommended for students interested in the Ph.D. track)

**SPEAKER**
Sharon Milgram, Ph.D., National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD

10:00 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.  # 207 CD

**SESSION 6**
Professional Development on a Busy Scientist’s Schedule  
(Recommended for graduate students and postdoctoral scientists)

**SPEAKER**
Yaihara Fortis Santiago, Ph.D., Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York City, NY

10:00 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.  # 206 AB

**SESSION 7**
Tailoring Your Resume for Nontraditional STEM Careers  
(Recommended for graduate students and postdoctoral scientists)

**SPEAKER**
Danielle Watt, Ph.D., University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN

10:00 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.  # 209 AB

**SESSION 8**
NIGMS Grant Writing and the SCORE Program  
(Recommended for faculty, program directors, and exhibitors)

**SPEAKERS**
- Luis Cubano, Ph.D., National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD
- Tracy Koretsky, Ph.D., National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD
- Irina Krasnova, Ph.D., National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD
- John Laffan, Ph.D., National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD
- Lee Slice, Ph.D., National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD

10:00 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.  # 208 AB

**Concurrent Scientific Sessions**
(8 Session Options)

**SESSION 1**
Hydrogen Sulfide (H2S) in Humans: Physiology, Biochemistry, and Relevance  
Discipline: Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

**SPEAKER**
Juan López-Garriga, Ph.D., University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez Campus, Mayagüez, Puerto Rico

11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  # 204 AB

**SESSION 2**
How Do Cancer Cells Communicate with the Host  
Discipline: Cancer Biology

**SPEAKER**
Renumathy Dhanasekaran, M.D., Stanford University, Stanford, CA

11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  # 203 AB
11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. 208 AB

SESSION 3
Listening to Enzymes Sing
Discipline: Chemistry

SPEAKER
- Gregory Weiss, Ph.D., University of California, Irvine, Irvine, CA

11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. 202 AB

SESSION 4
Understanding Genetic Variation: Three Cutting-Edge Research Studies in Diverse Populations
Discipline: Developmental Biology and Genetics

MODERATOR
- Debra Murray, Ph.D., Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX

SPEAKERS
- Neil Hanchard, M.D., Ph.D., Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX
- Cristina de Guzman Strong, Ph.D., Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, MO

11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. 206 AB

SESSION 5
Adapting an Evolutionary Model for Microbiota Studies: Diversity Matters
Discipline: Microbiology

SPEAKER
- Kat Milligan-Myhre, Ph.D., University of Alaska Anchorage, Anchorage, AK

11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. 207 CD

SESSION 6
Epigenetics: Pushing the Boundaries of Memory
Discipline: Neuroscience

SPEAKER
- Marcelo Wood, Ph.D., University of California, Irvine, Irvine, CA

11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. 204 C

SESSION 7
The Intelligent Bladder Urothelium: Not just a Passive Barrier
Discipline: Physiology and Pharmacology

SPEAKER
- Bahareh Vahabi, Ph.D., University of the West of England, Bristol, UK

11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. 209 AB

SESSION 8
Partnering with Communities to Improve Cardiovascular Health Equity
Discipline: Social and Behavioral Sciences and Public Health

SPEAKER
- Elizabeth Lynch, Ph.D., Rush University Medical Center, Chicago, IL

12:15 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Networking Lunch by Discipline

12:45 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

PLENARY SCIENTIFIC SESSION
Hip Hop Stroke: An Investigator Initiated NIH-Funded Journey

MODERATOR: John Fitzgerald Gates, Ph.D., Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

SPEAKER: Olajide Williams, M.D., M.S., Columbia University Medical Center/New York Presbyterian Hospital, New York, NY

1:45 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Exhibit and Poster Hall Hours

2:00 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.
Poster Session 1 (A)
3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.  HALL B (EXHIBIT HALL MENTORING TABLES)

Mentoring Coaching

3:30 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.  HALL B

Poster Session 2 (B)

5:30 p.m. - 6:45 p.m.  204 AB

ORAL SESSION 1
Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
PRESENTERS
- O-001: Megan Bacabac
- O-002: Mauricio Garcia
- O-003: Andrea Valenzuela
- O-004: Erica Rosario
- O-005: Catherine Hua

5:30 p.m. - 6:45 p.m.  208 AB

ORAL SESSION 1
Cancer Biology
PRESENTERS
- O-006: Silva Baburyan
- O-007: Brandon Cuevas
- O-008: Shantae Lewis
- O-009: Marlisa Shaw
- O-010: Nada Terra

5:30 p.m. - 6:45 p.m.  210 B

ORAL SESSION 1
Cell Biology & Immunology
PRESENTERS
- O-011: Vidal Bejar-Padilla
- O-012: Maria Ford
- O-013: Nicholle Lewis
- O-014: Jailene Paredes
- O-015: Natalie Pedicino

5:30 p.m. - 6:45 p.m.  206 AB

ORAL SESSION 1
Chemistry
PRESENTERS
- O-016: Shayne Boykin
- O-017: Eduardo Chaparro

5:30 p.m. - 6:45 p.m.  210 A

ORAL SESSION 1
Computational and Systems Biology
PRESENTERS
- O-021: Lucas Encarnacion-Rivera
- O-022: Brandon Franco
- O-023: Ananya Gupta
- O-024: Breanna McBean
- O-025: Ardella Phoa

5:30 p.m. - 6:45 p.m.  204 C

ORAL SESSION 1
Developmental Biology and Genetics
PRESENTERS
- O-026: Megan Ezeude
- O-027: Gervyn Fajardo Franco
- O-028: Zachary Perkins
- O-029: Phillip Pham
- O-030: Danae Sanders

5:30 p.m. - 6:45 p.m.  210 D

ORAL SESSION 1
Engineering, Physics, and Mathematics
PRESENTERS
- O-031: Anthony Baker
- O-032: Jessica Gannon
- O-033: Nadou Lawson
- O-034: David Medina-Suarez
- O-035: Daniela Yakobashvili

5:30 p.m. - 6:45 p.m.  203 AB

ORAL SESSION 1
Microbiology
PRESENTERS
- O-036: Bouchra Benghomari
- O-037: Madison Gowett
- O-038: December Lee
- O-039: Makeda Mills
- O-040: Ana Quintanar Alfaro
5:30 p.m. - 6:45 p.m.  
ORAL SESSION 1  
**Neuroscience**  
**PRESENTERS**  
- O-041: Lindsay Altidor  
- O-042: Mia Edgerton  
- O-043: Synophage Gibbs  
- O-044: Damaris Nieves Torres  
- O-045: Marc Padilla  

7:00 p.m. - 7:45 p.m.  
**Networking Dinner by Discipline**  

8:00 p.m. - 9:45 p.m.  
**PDO Steering Committee Meeting**  
(By Invitation Only)  

8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.  
**Gateway to the Future: Career Paths in the Biomedical Sciences, STEM Disciplines, and Behavioral Sciences**  
(Recommended for all students)  
**FEATURED SCIENTISTS/REPRESENTATIVES:**  
- **Keshia Ashe, Ph.D.,** ManyMentors, National Science Foundation (NSF) (Government/Research)  
- **Crystal Austin, Ph.D.,** University of Kansas Medical Center (Medicine/Research)  
- **Shereka Banton, Ph.D.,** Johnson & Johnson - Ethicon (Industry/Pharmaceutical)  
- **Nicquet Blake, Ph.D.,** University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio (Academia/Professional School)  
- **Dominque Carter, Ph.D.,** National Science Foundation (Government/Science Policy)  
- **Catherine Cascavita, B.S.,** Genentech (Industry/Pharmaceutical)  
- **Ruan Cox, Jr., Ph.D.,** Moffitt Cancer Center (Non-Profit/Medical Research)  
- **Dana Crawford,** Case Western Reserve University (Academia/Doctoral Degree-Granting)  
- **Pedro DelValle,** Food and Drug Administration (Government/Research)  
- **Galahad Deperalta, Ph.D.,** Genentech (Industry/Pharmaceutical)  
- **Mareshia Donald, Ph.D.,** Novartis Institutes for BioMedical Research (NIBR) (Industry/Pharmaceutical)  
- **Ana Lucia Fuentes, Ph.D.,** LaGuardia Community College (Academia/Community College)  
- **L. Alex Gaither, Ph.D.,** Novartis Institutes for Biomedical Research (NIBR) (Industry/Pharmaceutical)  
- **Peter Gannett, Ph.D.,** Nova Southeastern University, College of Pharmacy (Academia/Professional School)  

5:30 p.m. - 6:45 p.m.  
**ORAL SESSION 1**  
**Physiology and Pharmacology and Neuroscience**  
**PRESENTERS**  
- O-046: Zarin Bhuiyan  
- O-047: Anthony Bishay  
- O-048: Monique Duffus  
- O-049: Roland Lacap  
- O-050: Alexandra Salazar  

5:30 p.m. - 6:45 p.m.  
**ORAL SESSION 1**  
**Social and Behavioral Sciences and Public Health**  
**PRESENTERS**  
- O-051: Ahlam Ashkar  
- O-052: Melissa Brewster  
- O-053: Goretty Chavez  
- O-054: Aida Murati  
- O-055: Sirena St. Ours  

8:00 p.m. - 9:45 p.m.  
**ORAL SESSION 1**  
**Social and Behavioral Sciences and Public Health**  
**PRESENTERS**  
- O-056: Kimberly Gardner  
- O-057: Nyomi Hudson  
- O-058: Alexa Michel  
- O-059: Ervin Simmons  
- O-060: Keyanna Taylor
Herbert Geller, Ph.D., National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NIH) (Government/ Biomedical Engineering)

Kenneth Gibbs, Ph.D., National institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS) (Government/ Education)

Aziza Glass, D.V.M., Personal Touch Veterinary Clinic, PLLC (Veterinary/ Professional School)

Vanessa Gonzalez-Perez, Ph.D., Princeton University (Academia/ Doctoral Degree-Granting)

Terri Grant, Ph.D., Old Dominion University (Academia/ Doctoral Degree-Granting)

Brittany Haynes, National Institutes of Health/ National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (Government/Policy)

Josh Henkin, Ph.D., The Tauri Group (Consulting/ Biotechnology)

Ronald Hunter, Ph.D., Mérieux Nutrisciences (Industry/ Biotechnology)

Amanda Marie James, Emory University, (Academia/ Doctoral-Degree Granting)

L'Aurelle Johnson, Ph.D., University of Minnesota, College of Pharmacy (Academia/ Professional School)

Harlan Jones, Ph.D., Keystone Symposia (Non-Profit)

Maiysha Jones, Ph.D., Procter & Gamble (Industry/ Pharmaceutical)

Adrian Land, Ph.D., Procter & Gamble (Industry/ Biotechnology)

Sydnie Lau, B.S., Genentech (Industry/ Pharmaceutical)

Janette Lawrence, Massachusetts General Hospital (Medicine/Genetics)

Brittney Davis Lynn, National Cancer Institute (NIH) (Government/Cancer Biology)

Fahmy Mamuya, Ph.D., Olympus Life Science (Industry/ Biotechnology)

Shannon Nooonan, M.S., Genentech (Industry/Pharmaceutical)

Shantisa Norman, M.S., Sandia National Laboratories (Government/ Research)

Ofelia Olivero, National Cancer Institute (NIH) (Government/Cancer Biology)

Saundra Oyewole, Ph.D., Trinity Washington University (Academia/ Medical School)

Carolina Pombo, Ph.D., AlphaBioCom (Science Writing/ Medical Writing)

Chloe Poston, Ph.D., Brown University (Academia/ Doctoral Degree-Granting)

Marquitta Qualls, Ph.D., Entropia Consulting (Consulting/ Pharmaceutical)

Danjuma Quarless, Abbvie Inc. (Industry/ Pharmaceutical)

Dinelia Rivera-Burgos, Ph.D., Battelle (Industry/ Biotechnology)

Delira Robbins, Ph.D., University of Tennessee Research Foundation (Academia/ Technology Transfer)

Cheryl Rowe-Rendleman, Ph.D., Omar Consulting Group, LLC (Consulting/ Pharmaceutical)

Jillian Silva, Ph.D., Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center (Academia/ Research)

Tori Strong, Ph.D., Vyripharm Biopharmaceuticals (Industry/ Commercialization)

Angela Sy, Ph.D., University of Hawaii (Academia/ Doctoral Degree-Granting)

Kristen Walker, M.S., USDA (Government/ Research)

Iris Wagstaff, Ph.D., American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) (Non-Profit/ Non-Profit Education)

Adrienne Williams, B.S., Genentech (Industry/ Pharmaceutical)

Kevin Villalongo, M.B.A., Scapa Healthcare (Biomed Laboratories) (Industry/ Biotechnology)

Patrice Yarbough, Ph.D., NASA (Government/ Research)

8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. 303 A-D

Master’s Level Poster Session/Graduate Students and Postdoctoral Scientists Dessert and Networking Mixer
(For graduate students and postdoctoral scientists)
Friday, November 15

7:00 a.m. - 7:45 a.m. BALLROOM A-E
Networking Breakfast

Concurrent Professional Development Sessions
(8 Session Options)

8:00 a.m. - 9:15 a.m. 204 AB
SESSION 1
Translating STEM Education into Successful Careers: A Path to Meaningful Scientific Contributions
(Recommended for undergraduate and postbaccalaureate students)
SPEAKERS
- Ronald Hunter, Ph.D., Mérieux Nutrisciences, Chicago, IL
- Dinelia Rivera-Burgos, Ph.D., Battelle, Columbus, OH
- Kevin Villalongo, M.B.A., PMP, Scapa HealthCare, Dallas, TX

8:00 a.m. - 9:15 a.m. 204 C
SESSION 2
1,2,3…Go! Key Phases to Graduate School Application, Admittance and Success
(Recommended for community college, undergraduate, and postbaccalaureate students)
SPEAKERS
- Ailton Coleman, Ph.D., James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA
- Fadie Coleman, Ph.D., Boston University, Boston, MA
- M. Isabel Dominguez, Ph.D., Boston University, Boston, MA
- Jacqueline Milton Hicks, Ph.D., Boston University, Boston, MA
- Tyrone Porter, Ph.D., Boston University, Boston, MA
- Chloe Poston, Ph.D., Brown University, Providence, RI
- Ruth Washington, Ph.D., Kent State University, Kent, OH

8:00 a.m. - 9:15 a.m. 207 CD
SESSION 3
Creating a Useful Individual Development Plan
(Recommended for postbaccalaureate and graduate students)
SPEAKER
- Bill Lindstaedt, M.S., University of California, San Francisco, San Francisco, CA

8:00 a.m. - 9:15 a.m. 203 AB
SESSION 4
The How and Why of Publishing Your Work: Practical Advice for Graduate Students and Postdocs
(Recommended for graduate students and postdoctoral scientists)
SPEAKER
- Victor DiRita, Ph.D., Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

8:00 a.m. - 9:15 a.m. 208 AB
SESSION 5
Diverse Minds are Required to Invent the Future – An Inclusive Model Program for Learning from Nature for Societal Benefit
(Recommended for faculty, program directors, and exhibitors)
SPEAKER
- Robert Full, Ph.D., University of California, Berkeley, Berkeley, CA

8:00 a.m. - 9:15 a.m. 209 AB
SESSION 6
How We Learn…and How We Don’t
(Recommended for postdoctoral scientists, faculty, program directors, and exhibitors)
SPEAKER
- Robert Duke, Ph.D., University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX

8:00 a.m. - 9:15 a.m. 202 AB
SESSION 7
Funding for Graduate Students and Postdocs: Beyond NIH
(Recommended for graduate students and postdoctoral scientists)
SPEAKERS
- Phoebe Lostroh, Ph.D., Colorado College, Colorado Springs, CO
Victoria McGovern, Ph.D., Burroughs Wellcome Fund, Research Triangle Park, NC

8:00 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.  206 AB
SESSION 8
Diversity and Inclusion 2020: Opportunities, Lesson Learned and Strategies for Success
(Recommended for postdoctoral scientists, faculty, program directors, and exhibitors)

SPEAKERS
- Gary A. Smith, Ivy Planning Group, Bethesda, MD
- Janet Crenshaw Smith, Ivy Planning Group, Bethesda, MD

Concurrent Scientific Sessions
(11 Session Options)

9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.  204 AB
SESSION 1
Am I Potent?: Biological Activity Determination of Drugs Using Cell Based Assays
Discipline: Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

SPEAKERS
- Jeanner Helmreich, Ph.D., Eli Lilly and Company, Indianapolis, IN
- Krishna Moody, Ph.D., Eli Lilly and Company, Indianapolis, IN

9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.  208 AB
SESSION 2
Trim the Fat: The Role of Lipids in Cancer Development
Discipline: Cancer Biology

SPEAKER
- Glenn Simmons, Jr., Ph.D., University of Minnesota Medical School, Minneapolis, MN

9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.  209 AB
SESSION 3
NAD+ Metabolism during Aging: Insight from Quantitative Flux Analysis
Discipline: Cell Biology

SPEAKER
- Melanie McReynolds, Ph.D., Princeton University, Princeton, NJ

9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.  206 AB
SESSION 4
Twists and Turns Along the Path of Reactivity-driven Methods Development
Discipline: Chemistry

SPEAKER
- Hosea Nelson, Ph.D., University of California, Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA

9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.  210 A
SESSION 5
Functional Cancer Cell Maps
Discipline: Computational and Systems Biology

SPEAKER
- Jason Kreisberg, Ph.D., University of California, San Diego, San Diego, CA

9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.  204 C
SESSION 6
The Perils of Underrepresentation: What Research Tells Us About the Future of Broad-based Genetic Testing
Discipline: Developmental Biology and Genetics

SPEAKER
- Latrice Landry, M.S., Ph.D., Harvard Medical School and Harvard School of Public Health, Boston, MA

9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.  210 B
SESSION 7
Obesity, Immunity, and Impact on CAR T-cell Immunotherapy
Discipline: Immunology

SPEAKER
- Curtis Henry, Ph.D., Emory University, School of Medicine, Atlanta, GA

9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.  203 AB
SESSION 8
Diversity-generating Retroelements and the Accelerated Evolution of Adaptive Traits
Discipline: Microbiology

SPEAKER
- Jeffrey Miller, Ph.D., University of California, Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA
9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.  
SESSION 9  
A Lot of Nerve! Evolutionary Mechanisms of Neural Regeneration  
Discipline: Neuroscience  
SPEAKERS  
- Wendy Beane, Ph.D., Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI  
- Kelly Ai-Sun Tseng, Ph.D., University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Las Vegas, NV

9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.  
SESSION 10  
Integrating Genomics and Epigenomics for the Identification of Novel Cancer Therapeutics  
Discipline: Physiology and Pharmacology  
SPEAKER  
- Claudia Benavente, Ph.D., University of California, Irvine, Irvine, CA

9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.  
SESSION 11  
Flexibility of Implicit Bias  
Discipline: Social and Behavioral Sciences and Public Health  
SPEAKER  
- Yi (Jenny) Xiao, Ph.D., University of Washington, Tacoma, Tacoma, WA

10:15 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
Exhibit and Poster Hall Hours

10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.  
HALL B (EXHIBIT HALL MENTORING TABLES)  
Mentoring Coaching

10:30 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.  
HALL B  
Poster Session 3 (C)

12:15 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.  
HALL A  
Networking Lunch by Discipline

1:00 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.  
HALL A  
PLENARY SCIENTIFIC SESSION  
The Impact of Heterogeneity in Cancer Genome Science  
- MODERATOR: John Fitzgerald Gates, Ph.D., Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.  
SESSION 10  
Integrating Genomics and Epigenomics for the Identification of Novel Cancer Therapeutics  
Discipline: Physiology and Pharmacology  
SPEAKER  
- Claudia Benavente, Ph.D., University of California, Irvine, Irvine, CA

10:15 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
Exhibit and Poster Hall Hours

10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.  
HALL B (EXHIBIT HALL MENTORING TABLES)  
Mentoring Coaching

10:30 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.  
HALL B  
Poster Session 3 (C)

12:15 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.  
HALL A  
Networking Lunch by Discipline

1:00 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.  
HALL A  
PLENARY SCIENTIFIC SESSION  
The Impact of Heterogeneity in Cancer Genome Science  
- MODERATOR: John Fitzgerald Gates, Ph.D., Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
SESSION 1  
(Recommended for undergraduate, postbaccalaureate, and graduate students)  
SPEAKERS  
- Isola Brown, Ph.D., University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI  
- Ruan Cox, Ph.D., Moffitt Cancer Center, Tampa, FL  
- Maiysha Jones, Ph.D., Procter & Gamble, Cincinnati, OH
Alberto Roca, Ph.D., DiverseScholar, Orange County, CA

2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
**SESSION 5**

**International Collaborative Research: An Important Supplement to Academic and Professional Training**  
(Recommended for faculty, program directors, and exhibitors)

**SPEAKERS**
- Deisy Arrington, Ph.D. Candidate, University of Illinois at Chicago/University of Bordeaux, Chicago, IL
- Sepo Hachigonta, Ph.D., National Research Foundation, South Africa, Chicago, IL
- Lucy Okumu, M.A., King Abdullah University of Science and Technology, Saudi Arabia, Chicago, IL
- Denise Yates, M.A., University of Illinois at Chicago/LSAMP NSF International Center of Excellence, Chicago, IL

2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
**SESSION 6**

**Building Leadership Skills as Young Scientist**  
(Recommended for graduate students and postdoctoral scientists)

**SPEAKERS**
- Emily Harms, Ph.D., The Rockefeller University, New York City, NY
- Andrea Morris, Ph.D., The Rockefeller University, New York City, NY

2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
**SESSION 7**

**The Role of Societies in Increasing Diversity and Inclusion in Science**  
(Recommended for faculty)

**SPEAKERS**
- Amy Chang, American Society for Microbiology, Washington, DC
- Phoebe Losstroh, Ph.D., Colorado College, Colorado Springs, CO

2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
**SESSION 8**

**Young, STEM and Diverse — Success Strategies for the Next Generation of STEM Leaders**  
(Recommended for all students)

**SPEAKERS**
- Janet Crenshaw Smith, Ivy Planning Group, Bethesda, MD
- Gary A. Smith, Ivy Planning Group, Bethesda, MD

2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.  
**TWD-PDO Meeting**  
(Recommended for NIGMS Program Directors)

3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.  
**HALL B**

**Exhibit and Poster Hall Hours**

3:15 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
**HALL B**

**Poster Session 4 (D)**

3:45 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
**HALL B (EXHIBIT HALL THEATER)**

**Mentoring Showcase:**
“Students Utilizing Mentoring as a Personal Developmental Strategy”

4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.  
**HALL B (EXHIBIT HALL MENTORING TABLES)**

**Mentoring Coaching**

4:45 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.  
**HALL B**

**Poster Session 5 (E)**

**Concurrent Professional Development Sessions**  
(8 Session Options)

6:15 p.m. - 7:15 p.m.  
**SESSION 1**

**Cultivating Your Scientific Swag**  
(Recommended for community college, undergraduate, and postbaccalaureate students)

**SPEAKERS**
- Patrice L. Capers, Ph.D., M.S.C.R., The Citadel, Charleston, SC
- Tabitha M. Hardy, Ph.D., Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis, Indianapolis, IN
6:15 p.m. - 7:15 p.m.  204 C

SESSION 2

Tips for Getting Strong Letters of Recommendation
(Recommended for community college and nontraditional students)

SPEAKER
- Laura Kasman, Ph.D., Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, SC

6:15 p.m. - 7:15 p.m.  208 AB

SESSION 3

M.D. – Ph.D. Career Paths: Conversations with Physician Scientists
(Recommended for undergraduate and postbaccalaureate students)

SPEAKERS
- Myles Akabas, M.D., Ph.D., Albert Einstein College of Medicine of Yeshiva University, Bronx, NY
- Lawrence Brass, M.D., Ph.D., University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA
- Megan Williams, Ph.D., Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN

6:15 p.m. - 7:15 p.m.  204 AB

SESSION 4

Post Baccalaureate Programs, Tips for Submitting a Successful Application, and Advice on Taking a Gap Year
(Recommended for students considering postbaccalaureate training or taking a GAP year)

SPEAKERS
- Tameka Clemons, Ph.D., Spelman College, Atlanta, GA
- Sharon Milgram, Ph.D., National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD
- Kimberly Williams, Ph.D., Spelman College, Atlanta, GA

6:15 p.m. - 7:15 p.m.  209 AB

SESSION 5

Strategies for Taking Standardized Admissions Tests: Preparing for the MCAT Exams
(Recommended for undergraduate and postbaccalaureate students)

SPEAKER
- Saundra Oyewole, Ph.D., Trinity University, Washington, DC

6:15 p.m. - 7:15 p.m.  203 AB

SESSION 6

Should I Take the GRE Exam? If so, How Can I Best Prepare?
(Recommended for undergraduate and postbaccalaureate students)

SPEAKER
- Laurie Connor, Ph.D., Baylor School of Medicine, Houston, TX

6:15 p.m. - 7:15 p.m.  302 AB

SESSION 7

Job Search Strategies and Negotiating the Job Offer
(Recommended for graduate students and postdoctoral scientists)

SPEAKER
- Lauren Celano, M.B.A., Propel Careers, Cambridge, MA

6:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.  202 AB

SESSION 8

Infectious Disease Outbreaks and the Vaccination Dilemma
(Recommended for undergraduate and postbaccalaureate students)

MODERATORS
- Nancy Calderon, M.P.H., University of California, Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA
- Lourdes E. Echegoyen, Ph.D., University of California, Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA

SPEAKER
- Mario Barro, Ph.D., FluNXT/Sanofi Pasteur, Cambridge, MA

6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.  HILTON ANAHEIM

Speakers, Exhibitors, Judges, and Program Directors Networking Social

8:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.  303 AB

LGBTQ+ Networking Social & Tips on Succeeding as a Scientist
Saturday, November 16

7:00 a.m. - 7:45 a.m.  BALLROOM A-E
Networking Breakfast

8:00 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.  204 AB
ORAL SESSION 2
Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
PRESENTERS
- O-061: Hana Flores
- O-062: Elisabeth Kan
- O-063: Samar Behdin
- O-064: Gabriela Matos-Ortiz
- O-065: Ridhi Chaudhary

8:00 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.  208 AB
ORAL SESSION 2
Biochemistry and Molecular Biology & Computational and Systems Biology
PRESENTERS
- O-066: Cynthia Sabazali
- O-067: Jaliyah Spann
- O-068: Gabriel Meléndez
- O-069: Megan Darrell
- O-070: Gerson Kroiz

8:00 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.  209 AB
ORAL SESSION 2
Cancer Biology
PRESENTERS
- O-071: Jade Dodge
- O-072: Malcolm Frazier
- O-073: Shiva Deljookorani
- O-074: Besmira Alija
- O-075: Nicole Muniz

8:00 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.  206 AB
ORAL SESSION 2
Cancer Biology and Immunology
PRESENTERS
- O-076: Anniya Davis
- O-077: Ismael Bousso
- O-078: Sabina Kubayeva
- O-079: Alexandra McLennan
- O-080: Antonio Fontanella

8:00 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.  210 A
ORAL SESSION 2
Cell Biology and Developmental Biology and Genetics
PRESENTERS
- O-081: Margaret Mungai
- O-082: Oluomachi Onyekwere
- O-083: Iyuana Morris
- O-084: Quintera Knight
- O-085: Colin Kuhns

8:00 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.  204 C
ORAL SESSION 2
Developmental Biology and Genetics and Neuroscience
PRESENTERS
- O-087: Jasmine Cunningham
- O-088: Nzia Hall
- O-089: Shaheer Rizwan
- O-090: Karina Herrera

8:00 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.  210 D
ORAL SESSION 2
Engineering, Physics, and Mathematics
PRESENTERS
- O-091: Leroy Arthur
- O-092: Alexandra Tchir
- O-093: Kayleigh Johnson
- O-094: Isaac Nathoo
- O-095: Roshaun Mitchell-Cleveland
8:00 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.  210 B

ORAL SESSION 2
Chemistry and Engineering, Physics and Mathematics

PRESENTERS
- O-096: Imani Ross
- O-097: Taylor Dyson
- O-098: Lauren Moore
- O-099: Manuel Quinones-Perez
- O-100: Ayman Abdullah-Smoot

8:00 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.  203 AB

ORAL SESSION 2
Cell Biology and Microbiology

PRESENTERS
- O-101: Hai Pham
- O-102: Areli Jannes Javier
- O-103: Simone Lee
- O-104: Cole Calderon
- O-105: Kathleen Navas

8:00 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.  207 CD

ORAL SESSION 2
Neuroscience

PRESENTERS
- O-106: Marcus Phan
- O-107: Samsara Upadhya
- O-108: Antony Alvarado
- O-109: Ryan Tung
- O-110: Priscilla Louis

8:00 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.  210 C

ORAL SESSION 2
Social and Behavioral Sciences and Public Health

PRESENTERS
- O-111: Megan Maxwell
- O-112: Kailande Cassamajor
- O-113: Kayla Albin
- O-114: Briana Nemieboka
- O-115: Kailyn Price

8:00 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.  202 AB

ORAL SESSION 2
Physiology and Pharmacology and Social and Behavioral Sciences and Public Health

PRESENTERS
- O-116: Olufolake Majekodunmi
- O-117: Alexia Guzman
- O-118: Bryce Sakata
- O-119: Karen Munoz
- O-120: Helena Getachel

8:30 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.  201 A

Exhibitor Focus Group
(By Invitation Only)

9:15 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Exhibit and Poster Hall Hours

9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.  HALL B (EXHIBIT HALL MENTORING TABLES)

Mentoring Coaching

10:00 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.

Poster Session 6 (F)

11:00 a.m. - 11:20 a.m.  HALL B (EXHIBIT HALL THEATER)

EXHIBITOR SHOWCASE
Information about our Ph.D. and M.D./Ph.D. Programs and Offer Tips for a Top Application

INSTITUTION
- St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences

SPEAKER
- Racquel Collins, MT(ASCP), M.B.A., Ph.D., Assistant Dean, St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences

11:30 a.m. - 11:50 a.m.  HALL B (EXHIBIT HALL THEATER)

EXHIBITOR SHOWCASE
Laney Graduate School at Emory University: Striving for Excellence and Diversity

INSTITUTION
- Emory University, Laney Graduate School
INVEST IN THE FUTURE OF STEM | 41

THE PROGRAM

SPEAKER
■ Amanda Marie James, Ph.D., Assistant Dean, Diversity, Inclusion, & Community Engagement, James T. Laney School of Graduate Studies at Emory University; Faculty, Department of Biology, College of Arts and Sciences at Emory University

12:15 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.  HALL A
Networking Lunch

1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.  HALL A
CLOSED KEYNOTE ADDRESS
An Afternoon with Soledad O’Brien: Her Life Stories

MODERATOR
■ John Fitzgerald Gates, Ph.D., Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

SPEAKER
■ Soledad O’Brien, Award-Winning Journalist, Entrepreneur & Host of the Weekly Syndicated Political Show “Matter of Fact with Soledad O’Brien”

Concurrent Scientific Sessions
(6 Session Options)

2:15 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.  204 AB
SESSION 1
The Social Lives of Mitochondria: Inter-organelle Membrane Contacts as Signaling Platforms
Discipline: Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

SPEAKER
■ Samantha Lewis, Ph.D., University of California, Davis, Davis, CA

2:15 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.  202 AB
SESSION 2
Metastasis: The Unbeatable Beast?
Discipline: Cancer Biology

SPEAKER
■ Diana Cittelly, Ph.D., University of Colorado, Anschutz Medical Campus, Aurora, CO

2:15 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.  207 CD
SESSION 3
Genetic and Behavioral Interrogation of Pain Neural Circuits
Discipline: Cell Biology

2:15 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.  204 C
SESSION 4
Deconvoluting Disease Biomarkers with Computational Biology Tools
Discipline: Computational and Systems Biology

SPEAKERS
■ Ismail Abdus-Saboor, Ph.D., University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA
■ Andre Hudson, Ph.D., Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, NY
■ Felix Rivera-Mariani, Ph.D., Larkin University, Miami, FL

2:15 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.  203 AB
SESSION 5
Catching Anxiety: The Impact of HSV-1 on Animal Behavior
Discipline: Neuroscience

SPEAKER
■ Gerald Griffin, Ph.D., Hope College, Holland, MI

2:15 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.  206 AB
SESSION 6
Staying Woke, Part 2: The Neurobiology of Normal Sleep and Arousal
Discipline:

SPEAKER
■ Chicora Oliver, Ph.D., Emory University, Atlanta, GA
Concurrent Professional Development Sessions
(6 Session Options)

3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.  207 CD
SESSION 1
The Future of STEM Mentoring
(Recommended for faculty, program directors, and exhibitors)

SPEAKERS
- Joi Mondisa, Ph.D., University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
- Beronda Montgomery, Ph.D., Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.  203 AB
SESSION 2
Build Your Personal Statement ★
(Recommended for all students)

SPEAKERS
- Victoria Freedman, Ph.D., Albert Einstein College of Medicine, New York, NY
- Nancy Schwartz, Ph.D., University of Chicago, Chicago, IL

3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.  204 AB
SESSION 3
Overcoming Imposture Syndrome and Stereotype Threat
(Recommended for all attendees)

SPEAKER
- Alden Landry, M.D., M.P.H., Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA

3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.  206 AB
SESSION 4
The Biology of Patents
(Recommended for community college, undergraduate, and postbaccalaureate students)

SPEAKERS
- Bryan Husk, M.A., University of Wisconsin–Madison, Madison, WI
- Christopher M. Turoski, J.D., University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN

3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.  202 AB
SESSION 5
Mental Health and Wellness in STEM
(Recommended for graduate students and postdoctoral scientists)

SPEAKERS
- D'Anne Duncan, Ph.D., University of California, San Francisco, San Francisco, CA
- Christina Keeton, Ph.D., Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN
- Anne Sufka, University of California, San Francisco, San Francisco, CA

3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.  204 C
SESSION 6
I’m Surviving (Happily) My Career in Science—You Can Too! Ten Commandments of Work/Life Negotiation
(Recommended for undergraduate and postbaccalaureate students)

SPEAKERS
- Sarah Fankhauser, Ph.D., Oxford College of Emory University, Oxford, GA
- Joanne Kamens, Ph.D., Addgene, Boston, MA

4:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
FREE TIME

4:45 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.  201 A
REMNet Development Meeting

7:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.  HALL A
Awards Banquet and Ceremony

CONFERENCE WRAP-UP AND STUDENT PRESENTATION AWARDS CEREMONY
- John Fitzgerald Gates, Ph.D., Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

CONCLUDING REMARKS FROM CHAIRPERSON
- Avery August, Ph.D., Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine, Ithaca, NY

10:30 p.m. - 2:00 a.m.  HILTON ANAHEIM (CALIFORNIA BALLROOM)
Closing Social and Dance
Community College, Undergraduate, and Postbaccalaureate Poster Presentations

Sessions A–F

- **B** Biochemistry and Molecular Biology: 001-050
- **CA** Cancer Biology: 051-088
- **CB** Cell Biology: 089-112
- **CH** Chemistry: 113-140
- **CO** Computational and Systems Biology: 141-157
- **D** Developmental Biology and Genetics: 158-185
- **E** Engineering, Physics, and Mathematics: 186-215
- **IM** Immunology: 216-235
- **M** Microbiology: 236-278
- **N** Neuroscience: 279-328
- **P** Physiology and Pharmacology: 329-355
- **S** Social and Behavioral Sciences and Public Health: 356-393

Master’s Student Poster Presentations

Sessions M

- **B** Biochemistry and Molecular Biology: 001-050
- **CA** Cancer Biology: 051-088
- **CB** Cell Biology: 089-112
- **CH** Chemistry: 113-140
- **CO** Computational and Systems Biology: 141-157
- **D** Developmental Biology and Genetics: 158-185
- **E** Engineering, Physics, and Mathematics: 186-215
- **IM** Immunology: 216-235
- **M** Microbiology: 236-278
- **N** Neuroscience: 279-328
- **P** Physiology and Pharmacology: 329-355
- **S** Social and Behavioral Sciences and Public Health: 356-393
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Interdisciplinary Program
MD/PhD
Neuroscience
Translational Science

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The Exhibit Hall Passport offers you the chance to win prizes while exploring the programs and opportunities within the ABRCMS exhibit hall. Instructions for participating in the Exhibit Hall Passport can be found on the back of this card.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BOOTH 334</th>
<th>BOOTH 501</th>
<th>BOOTH 421</th>
<th>BOOTH 701</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOOTH 338</td>
<td>BOOTH 302</td>
<td>BOOTH 433</td>
<td>BOOTH 200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>BOOTH 579</td>
<td>BOOTH 321</td>
<td>BOOTH 724</td>
<td>BOOTH 558</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOOTH 249</td>
<td>BOOTH 630</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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- Visit the booths of each participating exhibitor and have them stamp their section of the passport grid.
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- You do not need to be present to win.

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Exhibit Hours

- Thursday, November 14: 1:45 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.
- Friday, November 15: 10:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
- Saturday, November 16: 9:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

You could win one of the following prizes:
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- $50 Amazon Gift Card
- $25 Target Gift Card
- $25 iTunes Gift Card
I really value the opportunity to help students learn more about graduate school and other opportunities. The opportunity to hear such from such amazing and thought-provoking speakers is unsurpassed.”
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exhibitor Name</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Boston University, Bioinformatics Program</td>
<td>528</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boston University – Graduate Neuroscience</td>
<td>530</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brandeis University</td>
<td>651</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard</td>
<td>312</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brown University – The Leadership Alliance</td>
<td>802</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brown University Graduate School</td>
<td>804</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burrell College of Osteopathic Medicine</td>
<td>340</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burroughs Wellcome Fund</td>
<td>634</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California State University, Chancellor’s Doctoral Incentive Program (CDIP) and California Pre-Doctoral Program</td>
<td>675</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California University of Science and Medicine</td>
<td>655</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caltech</td>
<td>213</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caltech Amgen Scholars – WAVE Fellows</td>
<td>211</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campbell University College of Pharmacy &amp; Health Sciences</td>
<td>524</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Case Western Reserve University Department of Chemistry</td>
<td>366</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Case Western Reserve University Population and Quantitative Health Sciences</td>
<td>356</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine – Biomedical Graduate Programs</td>
<td>358</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Center for Brains, Minds and Machines</td>
<td>357</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Center for Engineering MechanoBiology</td>
<td>204</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicago Medical School/Rosalind Franklin University</td>
<td>555</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia Research Institute</td>
<td>206</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cincinnati Children’s and University of Cincinnati College of Medicine</td>
<td>658</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City College of New York, CUNY</td>
<td>906</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clemson University – Department of Bioengineering</td>
<td>477</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine</td>
<td>376</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory</td>
<td>562</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College of Engineering – The Ohio State University</td>
<td>708</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College of Veterinary Medicine</td>
<td>710</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health</td>
<td>441</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columbia University Medical Center</td>
<td>421</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columbia University School of Engineering and Applied Science</td>
<td>202</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cornell University Graduate School</td>
<td>543</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cornell/Rockefeller/Sloan Kettering Tri-Institutional Ph.D. Programs</td>
<td>541</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dartmouth College, Graduate Programs</td>
<td>359</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Des Moines University, Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine, Podiatric Medicine &amp; Surgery, and Health Sciences</td>
<td>345</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drexel University</td>
<td>750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duke University Doctor of Physical Therapy</td>
<td>484</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duke University Graduate School</td>
<td>803</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duke University School of Medicine</td>
<td>801</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duquesne University</td>
<td>383</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine (VCOM)</td>
<td>339</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emory University Office of Postdoctoral Education / FIRST Program</td>
<td>705</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emory University, Rollins School of Pubic Health</td>
<td>703</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emory University, Laney Graduate School</td>
<td>701</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emory University/Graduate Division of Biological and Biomedical Sciences</td>
<td>800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Endocrine Society</td>
<td>569</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environment Health Sciences, NYU School of Medicine</td>
<td>Environmental Health Sciences, NYU School of Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development</td>
<td>Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida A&amp;M University CREATE Program</td>
<td>Florida A&amp;M University CREATE Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida State University College of Medicine Biomedical Sciences Ph.D. Program</td>
<td>Florida State University College of Medicine Biomedical Sciences Ph.D. Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food and Drug Administration, Recruitment</td>
<td>Food and Drug Administration, Recruitment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center</td>
<td>Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Genentech</td>
<td>Genentech</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgetown University Graduate Science Programs</td>
<td>Georgetown University Graduate Science Programs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgetown University Medical Programs</td>
<td>Georgetown University Medical Programs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia Tech and Emory University Department of Biomedical Engineering</td>
<td>Georgia Tech and Emory University Department of Biomedical Engineering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gerstner Sloan Kettering Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences</td>
<td>Gerstner Sloan Kettering Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global Health Technical Professionals (GHTP)</td>
<td>Global Health Technical Professionals (GHTP)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Center, City University of New York</td>
<td>Graduate Center, City University of New York</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate College, University of Illinois at Urbana – Champaign</td>
<td>Graduate College, University of Illinois at Urbana – Champaign</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate School, Oregon State University</td>
<td>Graduate School, Oregon State University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gulf Coast Consortia</td>
<td>Gulf Coast Consortia</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Harvard Divisions of Medical Sciences Ph.D. Programs and Harvard/MIT MD – Ph.D. Program | Harvard Divisions of Medical Sciences Ph.D. Programs and Harvard/MIT MD – Ph.D. Program | 316 |
Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health | Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health | 313 |
Harvard University Biophysics Program, Chemical Biology Program & Systems Biology Program | Harvard University Biophysics Program, Chemical Biology Program & Systems Biology Program | 314 |
Harvard University, MCB/SEAS | Harvard University, MCB/SEAS | 315 |
Harvard Integrated Life Sciences, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences & Harvard Medical School Department of Biomedical Informatics | Harvard Integrated Life Sciences, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences & Harvard Medical School Department of Biomedical Informatics | 317 |
Higher Education Recruitment Consortium – HERC | Higher Education Recruitment Consortium – HERC | 111 |
Howard Hughes Medical Institution (HHMI) | Howard Hughes Medical Institution (HHMI) | 201 |
Howard University | Howard University | 463 |
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai – Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences | Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai – Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences | 381 |
Idaho College of Osteopathic Medicine | Idaho College of Osteopathic Medicine | 346 |
Indiana University | Indiana University | 639 |
Indiana University Psychological & Brain Sciences, Cognitive Science & Program in Neuroscience | Indiana University Psychological & Brain Sciences, Cognitive Science & Program in Neuroscience | 763 |
Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis – IUPUI Graduate School | Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis – IUPUI Graduate School | 652 |
Indiana University, Bloomington Department of Biology | Indiana University, Bloomington Department of Biology | 650 |
Institute for Biomedical Sciences, Georgia State University | Institute for Biomedical Sciences, Georgia State University | 782

“The ability to inspire and assist these young students in their science careers. A great opportunity to encourage our young people of color in these science fields.”

INVEST IN THE FUTURE OF STEM | 51
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Integrated Life Sciences – University of Georgia</td>
<td>540</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interdisciplinary Graduate Program in Genetics at Texas A&amp;M University</td>
<td>674</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IU School of Medicine – Biomedical Science Graduate Programs</td>
<td>221</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Hopkins University – Schools of Arts &amp; Sciences and Medicine</td>
<td>243</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Hopkins University – School of Arts &amp; Sciences and Engineering</td>
<td>247</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Hopkins University – Schools of Medicine and Public Health</td>
<td>241</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Hopkins University, Arts &amp; Sciences, CMDB Program</td>
<td>245</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joint Department of Biomedical Engineering UNC Chapel Hill/NC State University</td>
<td>428</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Journal of Student Research</td>
<td>369</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kaiser Permanente School of Medicine</td>
<td>778</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences</td>
<td>338</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kaplan Partner Solutions</td>
<td>Kaplan Test Prep</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KAUST</td>
<td>373</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keck Graduate Institute</td>
<td>469</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keck School of Medicine of the University of Southern California</td>
<td>423</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LA BioMed – Lundquist Institute</td>
<td>559</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory</td>
<td>912</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lehigh University</td>
<td>368</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lilly</td>
<td>471</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lincoln Memorial University College of Veterinary Medicine</td>
<td>780</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lincoln Memorial University – DeBusk College of Osteopathic Medicine</td>
<td>343</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center</td>
<td>378</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loyola University Chicago</td>
<td>647</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marshall University – Office of Research and Graduate Education</td>
<td>473</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science</td>
<td>203</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical College of Wisconsin Graduate School &amp; Medical Scientist Training Program (MD/Ph.D.)</td>
<td>302</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical College of Wisconsin School of Pharmacy and School of Medicine</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical University of South Carolina</td>
<td>253</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meharry Medical College School of Graduate Studies and Research</td>
<td>564</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mercer University Health Sciences Center</td>
<td>671</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miami University Graduate School</td>
<td>353</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michigan Medicine – Office for Health Equity and Inclusion</td>
<td>281</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michigan State University</td>
<td>629</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midwestern University</td>
<td>344</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MIT Dept of Biological Engineering, Harvard – MIT Health Sciences &amp; Technology Program</td>
<td>371</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MIT, Department of Biology</td>
<td>331</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morehouse College – PHSI</td>
<td>670</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morehouse School of Medicine</td>
<td>682</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine</td>
<td>354</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Cancer Institute</td>
<td>603</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute</td>
<td>602</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR)</td>
<td>604</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Institute of General Medical Sciences</td>
<td>601</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Institutes of Health – Scientific Workforce Diversity</td>
<td>615</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Institute of Mental Health</td>
<td>605</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NIHDS)</td>
<td>617</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA)</td>
<td>621</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Institutes of Health (OSC/NCATS)</td>
<td>610</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Institutes of Health, Office of Intramural Training &amp; Education</td>
<td>600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Research Mentoring Network</td>
<td>711</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Science Foundation</td>
<td>534</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neuroscience Graduate Program/ Oregon Health &amp; Science University</td>
<td>475</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York Institute of Technology College of Osteopathic Medicine</td>
<td>349</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York Medical College</td>
<td>768</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York University</td>
<td>210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NIAID</td>
<td>608</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NIAMS</td>
<td>612</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NIBIB/NIH</td>
<td>607</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NIH</td>
<td>615</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NIH Division of Loan Repayment</td>
<td>614</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NIH National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID)</td>
<td>916</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NIH Oxford – Cambridge Scholars Program</td>
<td>620</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NIH/National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences</td>
<td>613</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NIH/NHGRI</td>
<td>616</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NIH: Center for Scientific Review</td>
<td>611</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Carolina A&amp;T State University</td>
<td>430</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Carolina Central University/ Graduate School</td>
<td>433</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Carolina State University</td>
<td>426</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northeastern University</td>
<td>785</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northeastern University</td>
<td>585</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northwestern University – The Graduate School</td>
<td>732</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nova Southeastern University – College of Pharmacy</td>
<td>766</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Novartis Institutes for BioMedical Research</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NYU School of Medicine, Sackler Institute of Graduate Biomedical Sciences</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NYU Tandon School of Engineering</td>
<td>553</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oakland University William Beaumont School of Medicine</td>
<td>578</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office of Admissions &amp; Recruitment, Meharry Medical College</td>
<td>773</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office of Naval Research</td>
<td>107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine</td>
<td>103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Old Dominion University</td>
<td>351</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pacific Northwest University of Heath Sciences</td>
<td>348</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PCOM Georgia</td>
<td>367</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penn State College of Medicine</td>
<td>235</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine</td>
<td>335</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physician Assistant Education Association</td>
<td>474</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine</td>
<td>646</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plant Science Research Network</td>
<td>640</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ponce Health Sciences University</td>
<td>329</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Precise Advanced Technologies and Health Systems for Underserved Populations (PATHS-UP)</td>
<td>507</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Princeton University</td>
<td>438</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purdue University, The Graduate School</td>
<td>774</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regeneron Pharmaceuticals</td>
<td>465</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REMNet</td>
<td>779</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute</td>
<td>532</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rice University</td>
<td>509</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Rosetta Commons .................................. 777
Ross University School of Medicine .......... 770
Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center .................................. 764
Rowan University School of Osteopathic Medicine .................. 217
RowanSOM – Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences ............ 215
Rush University Graduate College .................. 713
Rutgers University – New Brunswick .............. 716
Rutgers, School of Graduate Studies – RBHS Newark ............... 714
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey ................. 466
Saint Louis University .................................. 364
Sam Houston State University ...................... 765
San Diego State University ......................... 567
Sanford Burnham Prebys Office of Education, Training, and International Services .................. 775
School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies/Rosalind Franklin University .. 557
School of Medicine and Health Sciences ... 581
School of Medicine Office of Special Programs ................. 377
Society for Developmental Biology ................. 444
Society for Neuroscience .............................. 654
Society of Toxicology .................................. 443
St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital 
Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences .......... 700
St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital ................. 485
St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital 
Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences .......... 483
Stanford University .................................. 324
Stony Brook University ................................ 548
Summer Health Professions Education Program .................. 677
SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University (State of New York) .......... 468
Texas A&M Health Science Center .................... 813
Texas A&M University, Department of Chemistry ............... 815
Texas A&M University, Office of Graduate and Professional Studies .................. 811
Texas Chiropractic College ............................ 380
Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences ................. 251
The George Washington University Institute for Biomedical Sciences ......... 551
The Graduate School .................................. 706
The Graduate School, University of Maryland, College Park .......... 539
The Jackson Laboratory .................................. 752
The Ohio State University ......................... 712
The Pennsylvania State University .................... 720
The Protein Society .................................. 449
The Rockefeller University Graduate School .................. 547
The Scripps Research Institute ...................... 464
The University of Alabama ............................. 681
The University of Alabama in Huntsville ............... 350
The University of Mississippi – Department of BioMolecular Sciences .......... 375
The University of Texas at Austin, College of Pharmacy ............... 327
The University of Texas at San Antonio, The Graduate School ........ 105
Thomas Jefferson University ......................... 427
Touro University Western Division .................. 341
Attending the conference allowed me to gain a whole new experience of communicating my research to new people and to network with others there to learn about more valuable research opportunities.”
ABRCMS allows students to connect with other students from similar backgrounds that are equally as passionate about science and research, which provides substantial motivation to continue pursuing a career in STEM.

<p>| University of Georgia Graduate School | 542 |
| University of Houston College of Optometry | 480 |
| University of Illinois at Chicago | 685 |
| University of Illinois at Urbana - Champaign | 742 |
| University of Illinois Bioengineering | 622 |
| University of Illinois Department of Chemistry | 740 |
| University of Iowa | 638 |
| University of Kansas – Graduate Studies and Self Graduate Fellowship | 520 |
| University of Kentucky | 363 |
| University of Kentucky Coll of Pharmacy | 776 |
| University of Louisville – IPIBS Program | 644 |
| University of Louisville – The Graduate School | 642 |
| University of Maryland MSTP and GPILS | 577 |
| University of Maryland School of Pharmacy | 571 |
| University of Maryland, Baltimore – STAR-PREP | 573 |
| University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) | 575 |
| University of Massachusetts – Graduate School | 385 |
| University of Massachusetts Worcester – Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences | 568 |
| University of Massachusetts Worcester – School of Medicine | 566 |
| University of Miami – Medical Graduate Programs | 384 |
| University of Miami College of Engineering | 283 |
| University of Miami Graduate School | 285 |
| University of Michigan | 275 |
| University of Michigan Department of Chemistry | 273 |
| University of Michigan Office of Graduate &amp; Postdoctoral Studies | 279 |
| University of Michigan Program in Chemical Biology | 277 |
| University of Minnesota Biomedical Sciences Graduate Programs | 514 |
| University of Minnesota Medical Scientist Training Program | 516 |
| University of Missouri Biochemistry Dept. &amp; Biological Sciences Div. | 556 |
| University of Missouri College of Veterinary Medicine | 554 |
| University of Missouri Graduate Life Sciences Programs | 558 |
| University of Missouri Graduate School &amp; College of Engineering | 550 |
| University of Missouri School of Health Professions &amp; School of Medicine | 552 |
| University of Nebraska Medical Center | 704 |
| University of Nebraska – Lincoln Office of Graduate Studies | 702 |
| University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine | 328 |
| University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill – School of Medicine and School of Pharmacy | 434 |
| University of North Carolina at Charlotte Graduate School | 431 |
| University of Notre Dame Graduate School | 665 |
| University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center/ Graduate College | 478 |
| University of Oregon Biology | 656 |
| University of Pennsylvania – Department of Chemistry | 208 |
| University of Pennsylvania, Perelman School of Medicine – Office of Research and Diversity Training | 205 |
| University of Pittsburgh – Health Sciences Diversity | 255 |
| University of Pittsburgh and CMU MSTP | 257 |
| University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine Biomedical Graduate Programs | 259 |
| University of Pittsburgh, Kenneth P. Dietrich Graduate School of Arts and Sciences | 582 |
| University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras Campus | 771 |
| University of Rochester | 666 |
| University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry | 664 |
| University of South Carolina | 481 |
| University of South Florida | 515 |
| University of Southern California – Programs in Biomedical &amp; Biological Sciences | 420 |
| University of Southern California / Programs in the Pharmaceutical &amp; Translational Sciences | 422 |
| University of Texas at Dallas, Department of Bioengineering | 645 |
| University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center UTHealth Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences | 511 |
| University of Texas Medical Branch Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences | 513 |
| University of the Incarnate Word School of Osteopathic Medicine | 326 |
| University of Toledo College of Graduate Studies | 580 |
| University of Utah School of Medicine | 717 |
| University of Virginia Department of Biomedical Engineering | 565 |
| University of Virginia, Biomedical Sciences | 563 |
| University of Washington – Bioengineering Department | 455 |
| University of Washington Computational Neuroscience Center | 467 |
| University of Washington, Biology &amp; Biochemistry | 454 |
| University of Washington, Department of Microbiology | 453 |
| University of Washington, Medical Scientist Training Program (MD/Ph.D.) and Genome Sciences Grad Program | 457 |
| University of Washington, Molecular &amp; Cellular Biology | 456 |
| University of Washington, Molecular Medicine and Mechanisms of Disease | 451 |
| University of Washington, Molecular Medicine and Mechanisms of Disease | 451 |
| University of Washington/PREP | 452 |
| University of Washington – School of Public Health | 455 |
| University of Wisconsin–Biosciences | 724 |
| University of Wisconsin–Madison School of Medicine and Public Health | 769 |
| UNM SOM Research Education Office | 679 |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UNT Health Science Center Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences</td>
<td>817</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USC Neuroscience Graduate Program</td>
<td>425</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USC Public Health Sciences/ Preventive Medicine</td>
<td>424</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UT Health San Antonio Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences</td>
<td>263</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UT Health San Antonio Office for Inclusion &amp; Diversity</td>
<td>269</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UT Health San Antonio OPA and SABER/IRACDA</td>
<td>265</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UT Health San Antonio South Texas MSTP</td>
<td>267</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UT Southwestern Medical Center Dallas</td>
<td>459</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UTEP Graduate Programs</td>
<td>781</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UTHealth School of Public Health</td>
<td>512</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Van Andel Institute Graduate School</td>
<td>249</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vanderbilt Graduate School and Fisk – Vanderbilt Bridge Program</td>
<td>657</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vanderbilt University</td>
<td>756</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vanderbilt University School of Engineering</td>
<td>659</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vanderbilt University School of Medicine and MD/Ph.D. Program</td>
<td>758</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vermont Genetics Network</td>
<td>649</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virginia Commonwealth University</td>
<td>635</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virginia Tech</td>
<td>311</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virginia Tech – PREP &amp; IMSD Programs</td>
<td>309</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine</td>
<td>310</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virginia Tech Multicultural Academic Opportunities Program</td>
<td>304</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virginia Tech Translational Biology, Medicine, and Health Graduate Program</td>
<td>306</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wake Forest University Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences</td>
<td>429</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington State University, College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences</td>
<td>374</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington University – Division of Biology &amp; Biomedical Sciences</td>
<td>239</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wayne State University</td>
<td>370</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wayne State University Cancer Biology Program</td>
<td>624</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wayne State University Graduate School</td>
<td>632</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wayne State University IMSD Program</td>
<td>628</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wayne State University School of Medicine</td>
<td>630</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wayne State University School of Medicine Department of Physiology</td>
<td>626</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weill Cornell / Rockefeller / Sloan Kettering Tri-Institutional MD-Ph.D. Program</td>
<td>545</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weill Cornell Graduate School of Medical Sciences</td>
<td>535</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weill Cornell Medicine, Department of Healthcare Policy and Research</td>
<td>522</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine</td>
<td>333</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Virginia University</td>
<td>229</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Michigan University Homer Stryker M.D. School of Medicine</td>
<td>676</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Carey University College of Osteopathic Medicine</td>
<td>330</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Worcester Polytechnic Institute</td>
<td>365</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yale University Biological and Biomedical Sciences Program</td>
<td>115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yale University Diversity, Inclusion, Community Engagement and Equity</td>
<td>113</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yale University Graduate Student Development &amp; Diversity</td>
<td>216</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yale University MD-Ph.D. Program</td>
<td>214</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yale University School of Public Health</td>
<td>212</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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Floor Plan
Go further

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