

Campus News

10 Students From Minority Campuses Explore Advances In Biology

UNC News Services, CHAPEL HILL -- Ten students from historically minority schools in North Carolina learned about the latest advances in biology this summer.

The students participated in the Program for Minority Advancement in the Biomolecular Sciences, based at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. The program is designed to encourage minority students to pursue careers in science by developing an innovative process of science education that uses conceptual thinking, the thrill of discovery, and an awareness and understanding of career opportunities in science.

The United States is facing a shortage of scientists and science teachers, said Dr. Terrance Johnson, program director. At the same time, fewer students are pursuing careers in the sciences.

Minority students can help meet that demand, but many fail to pursue careers because they often are excluded from academic tracks that emphasize science or they take science courses that are unexciting and unrewarding.

The Program for Minority Advancement in Biomolecular Sciences tries to combat those problems by working on three fronts: with faculty and students at historically minority universities and with secondary science teachers at schools with large minority enrollments.

Using state-of-the-art equipment, students learned about scientific advances in the understanding of the role of genes in development and diseases.

Participating students and faculty were from Elizabeth City State University, Fayetteville State University, N.C. Central University and Pembroke State University.

Three FSU students participated in this summer's program. They are: senior **Roxie C. Wells**, daughter of Rev. and Mrs. C.L. Cannon of Fayette, Ala.; 1991 graduate **Melaney C. Caton**, daughter of Bill and Mary

Linehan of Fayetteville; and **Barbara M. Davidson**, daughter of Barbara Anne Marsh of Farmville, Va., and Joseph P. Marsh, Sr. of Cartersville, Va., who is completing her studies at FSU through the School of Pharmacy at Howard University in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Valeria Flemming of FSU participated in a faculty sabbatical at UNC last summer as part of the Program for Minority Advancement in the Molecular Sciences. During the sabbatical she prepared to teach a course on frontiers in molecular science at her school during the 1990-91 academic year. She will continue to teach the course this year.

The Program for Minority Advancement in the Biomolecular Sciences was established through a \$1.5 million grant from the



Roxie Wells (left) of FSU; Dr. Terrance Johnson, director of the UNC program; and Barbara Davidson of FSU test the fertilization of sea urchin eggs in a more acidic environment than they are used to.

Howard Hughes Medical Institute in 1989. Additional funding has come from the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation and the

Eisenhower Mathematics and Science Program, as well as from UNC.

- Liz Lucas

1991 Orientation Leaders

These students served as 1991 Orientation Leaders. They did an excellent job of helping the 320 new freshmen/transfer students who attended Summer Orientation/Pre-registration '91 make a smooth transition to FSU. Please feel free to express your appreciation of their efforts.

Toni Bell

Age: 20

Toni is a junior majoring in English. She's involved in cooperative education and enjoys tennis and bowling. She graduated from Westover Senior High School in Fayetteville, N.C. She is a 1st year Orientation Leader.

Tony Craddock

Age: 20

Tony is a junior majoring in psychology. His accomplishments include: The Thurgood Marshall Scholar, Chancellor's Scholar, and tutor for Arts & Sciences. He is a 1989 graduate of Westover Senior High School in Fayetteville, N.C. He is also a

congressional summer intern. Tony is a native of Fayetteville and a 2nd year Orientation Leader.

Carrie Dennison

Age: 20

Carrie is a junior majoring in English and Sociology. Her hometown is Georgetown, South Carolina. She graduated from Georgetown High School. She serves as historian for Delta Sigma Theta, Chief Justice for the Student Judicial Board, Program Coordinator for ABLE, English tutor, and NAACP president. She also serves on the Homecoming committee and is a 2nd year Orientation Leader. Her goals are to become a licensed mortician and own her own funeral home.

Kesha Devane

Age: 20

Kesha is a junior majoring in Elementary Education. Her hometown is Roseboro, N.C. She graduated from Lakewood High School in 1989. She is a FSU

cheerleader and was elected as Miss Harris Hall for 1990. She is also a member of FSU concert choir. She is a 2nd year Orientation Leader.

Paula Johnson

Age: 21

Paula is a senior majoring in Business Administration. Her nickname is "Smiley". She is a graduate of Carteret High School in her hometown of Beaufort, N.C. She is a 2nd year Orientation Leader.

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