



JOURNAL FALL 2005

An Official Publication of the Louis Stokes Louisiana Alliance for Minority Participation

POINTS OF INTEREST

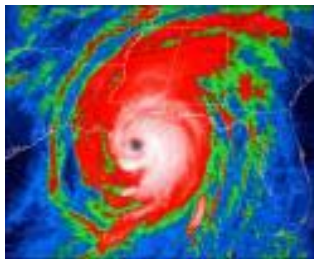
- **LS-LAMP Hurricane Katrina Relief Efforts**
- **Timbuktu Academy Helps Displaced Students**
- **Scholars Support Shelters**
- **Sources of Assistance**

Inside This Edition

LS-LAMP Responds to Hurricane Katrina	2
Hicks Honored	3
Bridge to Doctoral Program @ LSU	4
Campus Highlights	6
University of Iowa Welcomes Scholars	10
Scholars Speak Out	12
LS-MAMP Research Symposium	14

Displaced Affiliates Welcomed by LS-LAMP

By: Tamiara L. Wade



Hurricane

Katrina, the sixth-strongest storm ever recorded, blasted through Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama on August 29, 2005, and forever

changed the face of the landscape and people's lives. Katrina devastated the Gulf Coast – specifically, the New Orleans area levee system was breached and the lake waters flooded the city. To add to the massive devastation and displacement from Hurricane Katrina, yet another storm, Hurricane Rita, struck southwestern Louisiana and southeastern Texas on September 24th.

All five (5) of the LS-LAMP partner institutions located in New Orleans were evacuated. Two hundred and fifty (250) of the seven hundred and fifty LS-LAMP Scholars are displaced. In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, professors and students from the New Orleans city universities took academic refuge in other schools. The LS-LAMP and Timbuktu Academy staff at Southern University Baton Rouge quickly mobilized to welcome and provide assistance to its displaced affiliates. The LS-LAMP office became the centralized administrative service area to scholars pursuing degrees in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) disciplines. Staff paid no attention to the clock but stayed as long as they were needed. Everyone—no matter what their job – pitched in to do the work that needed to be done. But work is really not quite the word to describe the caring and compassion that served as the hallmark of those incredible weeks immediately after the hurricane.

With the many displaced students, faculty and

administrators there were many heart-wrenching accounts of being on the frontlines of Hurricane Katrina. The stories were heartbreaking and uplifting at the same time: heartbreaking because of families being separated and not knowing whether their loved ones were alive or dead; uplifting because of the humanity so many people showed at the most desperate time in their lives.

Very many students, despite obvious obstacles, demonstrated sound judgment by electing to continue to pursue their studies. Leroy Gougisha, an LS-LAMP displaced scholar from Southern University at New Orleans, is "thankful to be going to SUBR" and believes that "it is a great opportunity" to finish his studies.

To date, LS-LAMP has assisted over 145 displaced scholars. LS-LAMP has guided students through the curriculum selection to accommodate their plan of studies, assisted in the registration process and provided financial assistance in the form of book awards, stipends and housing. More than \$100,000 of assistance has been provided to scholars. As students continue to contact LS-LAMP for necessary support, this number continues to rise. Gougisha states that he has "received a lot of support, encouragement and assistance from LS-LAMP, especially Dr. Bagayoko and his assistants."

Hundred of thousands of people including displaced students, faculty and administrators continue to suffer from the devastation of this hurricane season. Despite obstacles presented by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, LS-LAMP remains committed to increasing the number and quality of minority students earning baccalaureate degrees in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) disciplines.

Hurricane Katrina is an experience that has strengthened us in unbelievable ways. Hurricane Katrina has helped to make us stronger and better prepared for future challenges.

LS-LAMP Immediately Responds To Hurricane Katrina



“...the LS-LAMP statewide office in Baton Rouge geared up...to locate and assist the displaced students, faculty and staff.”

Dear LS-LAMP Affiliates:

Hurricane Katrina has had a direct and catastrophic impact on LS-LAMP operations. All five (5) of the LS-LAMP partner institutions located in New Orleans and the surrounding area have been evacuated. Most of these institutions were inflicted with severe wind, fire, and particularly flood damages. Among the displaced students of these five (5) institutions are 250 of the 750 scholars of LS-LAMP.

The day after Katrina hit, the LS-LAMP statewide office in Baton Rouge geared up, on an emergency basis, to locate and to assist the displaced students, faculty, and staff. The following steps were taken.

- LS-LAMP and Timbuktu Academy web sites were modified to include pages devoted entirely to locating and assisting displaced students, staff, and faculty. Due to the almost total breakdown of phone services, the Internet was the primary means of communication with displaced persons. Phone and fax numbers were listed to provide 24-hour access to help. The web sites are being updated on a continual basis to provide the latest, useful information. Please see www.ls-lamp.org or www.phys.subr.edu/timbuktu.htm.
- An email address (lamphelp@gmail.com) was set up to enable displaced persons to contact the LS-LAMP Office, to provide, and to receive information and assistance. To date, more than 145 students and many faculty and staff have contacted the LS-LAMP Office. Most of these 145 scholars either received some form of support or some paperwork is in the approval process to assist them.
- All LS-LAMP Level I scholars from the affected partner institutions are expected to receive a support equal to the one they would have gotten in their home institutions – provided they are enrolled in college.
- Displaced STEM students enrolled at SUBR, who are not LS-LAMP scholars, are also receiving assistance beyond useful information. Indeed, funding from NASA and the Department of the Navy, Office of Naval Research (ONR), is supporting several of these scholars, partly through the systemic mentoring activities of the Academy.
- LS-LAMP scholars in colleges and universities outside Louisiana are facing additional costs which, if not met, could result in an interruption of their matriculation. While most institutions outside Louisiana are waiving the out-of-state fees, some are requiring the payment of the tuition. **The University of Iowa is an exception where ten (10) LS-LAMP scholars are practically funded fully, using the institution’s funds. An effective web site developed by Ms. Candace Ellis, right after Katrina, was a key means of communication between the students and the University of Iowa.**
- The unsettling uncertainties, fueled by successive waves of budget cuts at Louisiana colleges and universities, increase the likelihood for future need for funding. As the LS-LAMP office establishes contact with displaced scholars and receives information and documentation relative to their new needs, it may approach various entities to seek additional funds.

Our thoughts and prayers are with all those who have suffered from the Hurricanes and their aftermath.

Sincerely,

Diola Bagayoko, Ph.D.
LS-LAMP Project Director

By: Tamiara L. Wade



Dr. A. James Hicks, National Program Director, at the National Science Foundation (NSF), for the Louis Stokes Alliances for Minority Participation (LS-AMP) was among the individuals who were inducted into the Alumni Hall of Fame. This honor was bestowed by the Tougaloo College National Alumni Association, Inc. at its 2005 Alumni Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony in Jackson, Mississippi.

Dr. Hicks, was saluted as honored for having distinguished himself through his dedication to his profession to Tougaloo College. LS-LAMP and the Timbuktu Academy congratulates Dr. A. James Hicks, a distinguished, deserving and consummate professional who, despite obstacles, has rendered dedicated, career-long services to the STEM enterprise, in general, and to increasing minority participation, in particular.

Timbuktu To Help Displaced Students Recover

Reprint from *The Southern University Digest*
September 27, 2005— Page 4

The Timbuktu Academy and the LS-LAMP program at Southern University has partnered with other organizations to disburse about \$225,000 among displaced science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) students and Louis Stokes-Louisiana Alliance for Minority Participation (LS-LAMP) scholars now enrolled at Southern and other universities nationwide displaced by the Hurricane Katrina disaster. Almost a month ago, the wrath of Katrina left behind uncertainties for Gulf Coast residents. Students were forced to change schools within a short notice as a result of damage to the city.

The stipends are designed to assist students with tuition costs, books and even housing at their new institutions, but are only awarded to STEM and LS-LAMP students. "We did not need a meeting," said Dr. Diola Bagayoko, statewide director of the LS-LAMP program and the director of the Timbuktu Academy, about providing assistance for the displaced students. "On Tuesday, we were on the phone and emailing New Orleans area students and professors and scattered to get them into schools," he said.

The Timbuktu was established on Southern's campus in 1990 as mentor program for undergraduate physics majors. The LS-LAMP program is an initiative to increase the number of minorities to earn degrees in STEM majors at 12 schools statewide. Five of those are in the New Orleans area. Funding for the students was provided through the

National Science Foundation, the Louisiana Board of Regents, the Department of the Navy's Office of Naval Research, NASA via Iowa State University and the Timbuktu Academy. According to Bagayoko, 32 students enrolled in the program at Southern and as of Sept. 20, have already received assistance in vouchers of at least \$500.

For Joseph Bouie, a junior physics major from Southern University New Orleans, said the transferring process was not hard after he evacuated to Houston. "I need all the help I can get, especially for books," Bouie said as he copied information from an assistance flyer in T.H. Harris Hall. Bouie said it was sort of inconvenient having to purchase books again but is thankful that he was able to continue his education. "Some (students) were not able to get in institutions," he said. "Whatever it takes I will do it."

Although various science majors are eligible for this assistance, Bagayoko said other displaced students who have different majors should visit the LS-LAMP web site at www.ls-lamp.org or www.phys.subr.edu/timbuktu.htm for more information on other organizations providing assistance.

"The stipends are designed to assist students with tuition costs, books and even housing at their new institutions."





Bridge to Doctoral Program



“This project is a direct and logical extension of LS-LAMP whose primary goal is to increase the participation of under-represented minorities in STEM disciplines...”

Through the Louis Stokes Louisiana Alliance for Minority Participation (LS-LAMP), the Louisiana State University Office of Strategic Initiatives (LSU/OSI) is pleased to announce a Fellowship opportunity available through the “Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation -- Bridge to the Doctorate Program” (LS-AMP/BDP), an initiative of the National Science Foundation. Dr. Diola Bagayoko at Southern University and Dr. Su-Seng Pang are the Principal Investigators (PIs) of the LSU/BDP, while Drs. Steven F. Watkins and Isiah M. Warner are Co-PIs. This project is a direct and logical extension of LS-LAMP whose primary goal is to increase the participation of under-represented minorities in STEM disciplines and to ease the transition of these graduates into graduate school.

LSU/BDP offers: twelve fellowships at \$30,000/yr and one fellowship supplement at \$5,000/yr for two years; payment of tuition and fees; individualized faculty mentoring and coaching; participation in professional conferences and meetings; links

to research and professional opportunities; and enriched academic services and support. The program is also an implementation and institutionalization of the 10-Strand Systemic Mentoring model developed by Dr. Bagayoko at all LS-LAMP institutions. The resulting reform-imbued enhancement of the teaching, mentoring, and research infrastructure of LS-AMP/BDP institutions and their ultimate institutionalization are expected to have an impact far beyond minority education, STEM disciplines, and Louisiana.

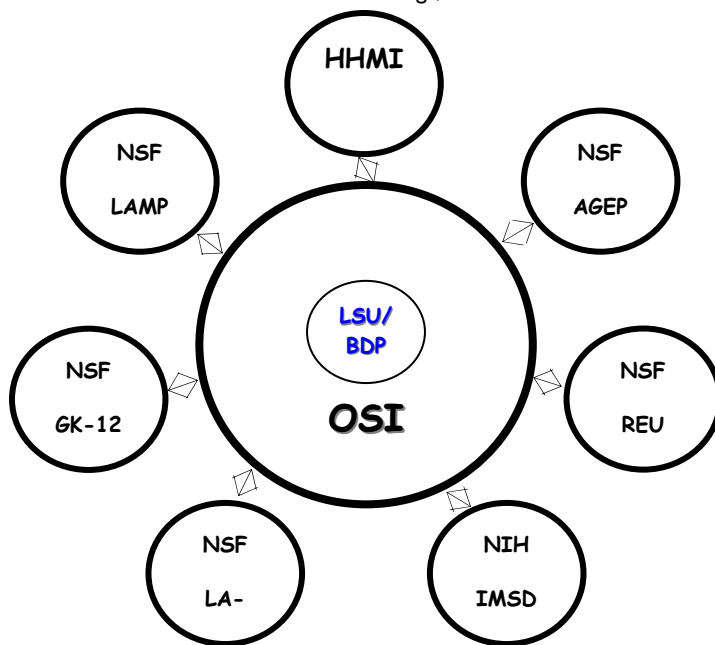
With the inception of the LSU/BDP program in Fall 2005, 13 Fellows have received awards; all of whom display great potential, sound judgment, good character and intellect.

Although the LSU/BDP program started in Fall 2005, the program has already achieved the following:

- All 12 LSU/BDP Fellows along with a Fellow Supplement were successfully recruited
- Almost all Fellows have identified their Ph.D. dissertation advisors during the first semester
- Four of the Fellows have already secured their support beyond the two-year BDP Fellowship

- Five of our Fellows will be attending the “2005 Compact For Faculty Diversity Institute on Teaching and Mentoring,” sponsored by the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) and held at the Marriott Crystal Gateway Hotel in Arlington, Virginia on Thursday, October 27 – Sunday, October 30, 2005.

OSI was established in 2001 to help facilitate many of the university’s educational programs. Dr. Isiah M. Warner and Dr. Su-Seng Pang serve as the Vice Chancellor and Associate Vice Chancellor for this office, respectively. The OSI Vision is to support the



Leveraging & Partnership Projects

See BDP at LSU page 11

Scholars Support Shelter After Storm

By: Tamiara L. Wade

Hurricane Katrina displaced an estimated 1.5 million people when it struck the Gulf Coast Region on August 29th, forcing evacuees to take residence in shelters across the nation. Due to an increasing need to shelter victims of the hurricane, Southern University and A&M College became an official Red Cross and FEMA supported shelter.

In addition, the Wesley Foundation at Southern University volunteered its facility to house evacuees, provide free room and board, meals and hot showers. The foundation, a Methodist campus ministry is facilitated by Pastor Rodney D. Wooten, Executive Director and serves the spiritual needs of Southern University's faculty, staff, students and others without regard to denomination. Rev. Wooten saw a need to open the doors of the Wesley Foundation and did so immediately. He says that their ability to assist others was done "with the help of God."

Americans of all races pulled together to show a selfless courage and a willingness to do the right thing. Among those selfless individuals were LS-LAMP and Timbuktu Academy Scholars who volunteered to support campus shelters after the storm. Jeffri Davis, Jason Winfrey, Rosie-Mary Beathley and Zephra Bell were among scholars who gave of themselves to support others in their time of need. When asked about their volunteer experience, one student remarked, "It was a rewarding experience that helped us appreciate everything we have. We're glad we could help so many people get back on their feet."

While most evacuees were cleared from shelters in mid October, the Wesley Foundation remains committed to "housing evacuees as long as necessary...whether it is 6 months or 5 years", says Wooten.



Timbuktu Academy Scholars, Jeffri Davis (above) and Zephra Bell (left) provides assistance at the Wesley Foundation at Southern University.

Photos By: Kelly Bogle, Undergraduate Assistant



Sources of Available Assistance

Pertinent information regarding sources of available assistance are posted on the web at

www.ls-lamp.org or www.phys.subr.edu/timbuktu.htm

Program Administrator Appointed

Brenda R. McNeely has 27 years of professional experience with 22 years at Southern University and A&M College. In January 2005, McNeely was selected as the program administrator for LS-LAMP. Before joining LS-LAMP, she served as the executive assistant to the vice chancellor for the Office of Research and Strategic Initiatives at Southern University, since its inception in 1996. Through this experience, she has developed a background and knowledge of federal programs, project management and research infrastructure. She has in-depth experience in business management, personnel management, organizational and planning administration, and project control.

McNeely came on board in January of this year prepared to "hit the ground running". She joins the LS-LAMP family with plans of contributing to its continued success.



**Brenda McNeely
Program Administrator**

LS-LAMP INSTITUTIONS

Southern University and A&M College

(Lead Institution)

•

Dillard University

•

Grambling State University

•

Louisiana State University

•

Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium

•

McNeese State University

•

Nunez Community College

•

Southern University at New Orleans

•

Southern University Shreveport Louisiana

•

Tulane University

•

University of Louisiana at Lafayette

•

University of New Orleans

What's Happening



By: **Dr. Ashok Puri**

Hurricane Katrina impacted us in many ways. As an LS-LAMP campus coordinator at UNO, I felt most disturbed at the very personal level. We had scholars preparing for the much-anticipated 2005 LS-LAMP conference, with at least 20 good presentations in progress. All of a sudden, mighty nature displaced them all. Once cell phones were working, phone calls started coming in from all over, including Memphis, Atlanta, and Baton Rouge. Baton Rouge became hub of the activity, as everyone was looking for housing and safety. The LS-LAMP office at Southern University and A&M College in Baton Rouge played and continues to play a key role in serving the LS-LAMP community at large. We were all literally lost and shocked at the events.

Under the masterful leadership of Dr. Bagayoko, we saw vision, hope and future. Focusing on what was in the best interest of the LS-LAMP institution, the management office canceled its 2005 Annual Student Research Conference in solidarity. LS-LAMP immediately began assisting scholars that were displaced. It was an emotional moment. Our scholars are extremely grateful for the much needed financial support. I salute Brenda McNeely for going beyond the call of duty and Dr. Saleem Hasan for caring for us always. We must take care of our students and administrative staff in this hour of crisis. I believe LAMP has done a fine job continues to do so, and deserves our gratitude.

As we recover from this crisis slowly, we will all remember the leadership role undertaken by LS-LAMP in uplifting our students and providing moral support in the wake of Hurricane Katrina.

May God bless LAMP for all of its efforts



Due to Hurricane Rita, classes began on a limited basis (depending on building availability) Thursday, October 27, 2005. A more detailed schedule is being developed and will be released in the immediate future. For updated information, please visit the McNeese State University web site at <http://www.mcneese.edu>

@ LS-LAMP Institutions ?



“It’s all about helping these young adults into and through the graduate program.”

Dr. Watkins Receives US Presidential Award

Dr. Steven F. Watkins, Associate Professor, Associate Chairman and Director of Graduate Studies in the Chemistry Department at Louisiana State University Baton Rouge, has become the latest in a growing number of Louisiana scientists and engineers to receive the *US Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics & Engineering Mentoring (PAESMEM)*. He joins previous awardees Dr. Diola Bagayoko, project director of LS-LAMP, Distinguished Professor of Physics and Director of the Timbuktu Academy at Southern University Baton Rouge, Dr. Isiah Warner, LSU Vice Chancellor for Strategic Initiatives and Boyd Professor of Chemistry, Dr. Su-Seng Pang, LSU Associate Vice Chancellor for Strategic Initiatives and Jack Holmes Professor of Mechanical Engineering, and Dr. Calvin Mackie, Associate Professor of Engineering at Tulane University in New Orleans. All five Louisiana PAESMEM awardees are actively involved in LS-LAMP.

PAESMEM, a program supported and administered by the National Science Foundation, honors individuals and institutions “that have enhanced the participation of underrepresented groups – such as women, minorities and people with disabilities – in science, mathematics and engineering education at all levels.” Since its inception in 1996, the PAESMEM program has recognized 87 individuals and 67 institutions. Each award includes a \$10,000 grant for continued mentoring work. Dr. Watkins was among eight other individuals and five institutions to receive the award on Monday, May 16, 2005 at a ceremony presided over by Dr. John H. Mar-

burger III, director of the White House Office of Science & Technology Policy. The awardees also met with President Bush in the oval office.

Dr. Watkins has been a driving force in a graduate program that regularly produces the largest number of African American chemistry doctorates of any university in the country. While credited with success in improving graduation rates, Watkins has also been involved in recruitment, retention and outreach activities, as well as advising other LSU departments on their minority recruitment efforts. He has also helped graduates find gainful employment in the academic, governmental and corporate sectors. “In chemistry, we have a very diverse department that has bought into what we are doing, so it has really been a group effort,” said Watkins. “It’s all about helping these young adults into and through the graduate program.” He says he delights in helping students cope with the rigors and anxieties of university life. “The one-on-one contact, the successful resolution of bureaucratic or personal problems, the growth of independence and confidence, and the final success of the degree -- it’s like being a parent and watching your child succeed,” he explains. “There is no greater reward than that.”

Dr. Watkins is also a key investigator of NSF/AGEP and NSF/LS-LAMP/BDP. For further information, please contact Dr. Steven F. Watkins at (225) 578-3467, <swatkins@lsu.edu>; or Dr. Su-Seng Pang at (225) 578-5892, <mepang@me.lsu.edu>.

College of Science Sends Record Number of Students to Research Internships



“This year...a record number of science and math majors are participating in summer internships at different locations around the country.”

It is common knowledge that opportunities abound, all over the country, for science and math majors to get involved in paid summer research internships. Over the years, SUNO's students have not been left out of these experiences. However, what is new this year is that a record number of science and math majors are participating in summer internships at different locations around the country. In 2004, twenty-six students took part in paid summer research internships. This year, the number is forty. Why this big jump? Dr. Joe Omojola, the dean of the College of Science attributes this to a number of things. He claimed that the hard work put in by LAMP and PES-MaCT faculty mentors in emphasizing the importance of participating in research internships is a critical component of the students' undergraduate education. Secondly, Dr. Omojola states that close collaboration with some institutions and programs also played a major role. For instance, Dr. Carl P. Johnson was able to place four of his students at the University of Missouri, Columbia. Dr. David Adegboye had two students working with him at the LSU Medical Center through his Louisiana Biomedical Research Network (LBRN) grant, while Dr. Omojola placed six other students with the Geoscience Alliance to Enhance

Minority Participation (GAEMP) internship program at LSU in Baton Rouge. These are placements that were not possible until now. The other thing that stands out in this year's placement is the number of freshmen taking part in research. Seven of the student interns are freshmen.

By and large, the duration of a typical summer internship is 6 weeks to 10 weeks and stipends range from \$2,500 to \$6,500. Generally, the institutions recruiting these students provide free housing and travel. Besides the research experience gained by the students, additional benefits include networking with other students, getting to know new places and institutions, presenting at professional conferences, and making the necessary connection for graduate school. We are seeing an increase in the stipends being paid and the number of institutions who are aggressively competing to recruit our students. For instance, this year faculty members from the University of Iowa and Louisiana State University came to SUNO to give recruitment seminars to our students. The students are responding well to our lead. This bodes well for the future of science and mathematics, at SUNO, for years to come.



Scheduled To Re-Open In January 2006

The generosity of our colleagues in higher education made it possible for thousands of displaced Tulane students to enroll as visiting students at 500 colleges and universities across the country. Since the storm, Tulane has been on the road to recovery, which is chronicled on our website, www.tulane.edu. The culmination of this recovery will be in January when Tulane University officially reopens.

Grambling State University Campus Highlights



The LS-LAMP program at GSU has offered many students opportunities to achieve full success while attending GSU in pursuit of educational endeavors. One program offered by LS-LAMP is the RAMP Program. The overall goal of the RAMP program is to engage GSU-LAMP scholars in research mentoring programs that will strengthen the skills needed for graduate school admission. This program has offered some assistance to the faculty members who are actively involved in research and to the faculty who are just starting to conduct research with undergraduate students. RAMP provides an active learning environment by engaging the students in on-going research, thus al-

lowing the students to relate what they learn in classroom and apply them to reality. RAMP also provides each faculty mentor with one to three students per semester.

LS-LAMP at GSU rewards their scholars for all of their hard work through Cadet Awards. These students had to meet all of the requirements set by the campus coordinator and co-coordinators which include attending LS-LAMP general meetings; constructing web pages; developing and designing LS-LAMP business cards; maintaining a GPA of 3.0 or better based on 4.0 scale; participating in GRE workshops, Guaranteed 4.0 workshop, and other related activities; presenting their research at a technical conference in science; and applying for summer internships. We have a total of 25 Cadet Scholars for

the 2004-2005 year. These outstanding students received different Cadet Awards based on their achievement levels. Activities related to LS-LAMP are created to allow our scholars to achieve their academic goals

LS-LAMP at GSU is steadily growing with good quantity and quality each passing year. This year with over 200 scholars actively participating, and we hope with our hard work and steadfast efforts we will continue our growth.

University of Louisiana At Lafayette



The Fall 2005 semester began with LS-LAMP scholars volunteering at the Cajundome, Katrina Computer Bank and Shelter. Students collected clothes, games, personal care items, and water for hurricane victims. Former LS-LAMP scholar, Michael Babineaux, assisted with patients at the Cajundome Medical Bank. Michael is a second year medical student at LSU Medical New Orleans.

Wakeel Idewu, LS-LAMP Spring 2004 graduate, returned as a guest speaker. He discussed the advantages of LS-LAMP, graduate school preparation, attending graduate school, and the importance of self-worth. Wakeel is enrolled in the engineering doctorate program at LSU.

The ADA Food and Nutrition Conference & Expo was attended by three scholars. Claire E. Hayes presented her research, "Knowledge and Awareness of Female College Students of Childbearing Age Regarding the Potential of Folic Acid in Preventing NTD's." Claire has won first place at previous conferences for her research. Four scholars accompanied by their program assistant attended the Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Scholars (ABRCMS). Danielle M. Gonzales, a senior in biology, was accepted to present her research, "Activation of ERK Pathway by PAF in Human Corneal Epithelial Cells." This was her first abstract submission and conference attendance.

We have encouraged our junior and senior members to take part in GRE preparation. With great success, participants have proceeded to doctorate programs at fine colleges including Arkansas State, LSU, Virginia Tech, UT, and our own ULL. This semester we have four seniors enrolled in the GRE Preparation Class.

Displaced By Katrina, Visiting Students Find Support & Opportunities At the University of Iowa



Brandi Adams (left), Jeanne Clair Williams (center) and Tamara Alexander (right) are three LS-LAMP students currently attending the University of Iowa.

In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, the University of Iowa mobilized efforts to ensure that the education of students from the Gulf Coast would not be interrupted by the storm. As a result, 10 displaced students from three New Orleans historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs) are now enrolled at the UI.

Phil Kutzko, professor of Mathematics and director of the University of Iowa's Office of Graduate Ethnic Inclusion, began the process of assisting displaced students shortly after the hurricane struck. Like other institutions around the country, the University of Iowa reached out to help students, faculty and staff from its extended family that was stranded in New Orleans. However, Kutzko said, "what makes the UI somewhat unique among majority institutions is that our extended family includes students at several New Orleans HBCUs. And one of our UI values is that you do not abandon family in an hour of need."

To do this, the University of Iowa drew upon long-standing community and academic connections. "We were able to get the students here within one week of the hurricane because of our previous ties with faculty, deans, program administrators, and students at the schools affected by the storm."

The unusual circumstances have brought to light the collaborative and flexible nature of the entire UI community. "I am impressed with how well and quickly we were able to move," said UI Executive Vice President and Provost Michael J. Hogan. "Within 48 hours, The University of Iowa had plans in place and had reached out to students to make arrangements for continuing their education at Iowa."

Funding for the students came from the National Science Foundation through its AGEP program, from the University of Iowa, and from several private sources, including generous donations from the Iowa business community. All the displaced students have been provided with furnished apartments, tuition scholarships, stipends and extensive mentoring and tutoring. According to Kutzko, "We wanted to provide the same type of infrastructure LS-LAMP offers—stipends, mentoring, and a supportive community."

Iowa graduate students associated with the NSF-sponsored Iowa AGEP program have helped form the nucleus of these efforts alongside many majority students, faculty, and staff. "The team of people working on this across our campus has been incredible," he said. "The University of Iowa has shown that it embraces community in the broadest sense. I am so proud to be part of a majority institution that has begun to move beyond race."

"It's a win-win situation. These students can continue their academic progress, while the UI and the Iowa City community benefit from their presence and skills," said Marian Coleman, equity director for the Iowa City Community School District. "The school district is so pleased. These students will make a tremendous and positive difference as mentors."

Educational and mentoring connections are, in fact, what brought many of the displaced students to Iowa. Some had attended summer programs at one of the Iowa Regents universities and some had expressed interest in attending the UI to pursue graduate degrees prior to being displaced by the storm. Most made the decision to come to Iowa because of previous mentoring partnerships with UI faculty or alumni.

Although they continue to process the devastation caused by the storm, the 10 students are working hard, immersed in their studies. "And that's just as it should be. It's important that their educations have not been interrupted and that they feel supported by their community here at Iowa," said Kutzko. "I am proud to say that our State and our University were not silent at this terrible moment. We remembered our friends, and we came to their aid."

For further information about the UI response to Hurricane Katrina, visit <http://www.uiowa.edu/~ournews/hurricane>.

"I am proud to say that our State and our University were not silent at this terrible moment. We remembered our friends and we came to their aid."

-Phil Kutzko, The University of Iowa



Front Row (L-R): Charisma Edwards, Ursula White, Monica Sylvain, Kandace Thomas;
Middle Row (L-R): Myron Peters, Jeffery West, Adeyabeba Abera, Su-Seng Pang
Back Row (L-R): Diola Bagayoko, Steven F. Watkins, Luis Alvergue, Leonard Moore, Isiah M. Warner

achievements and recognition of LSU students, faculty, and staff through education and mentoring programs. It will assist LSU in raising academic standing among its peers through competitive and outstanding achievements by students, staff, and faculty. To date, OSI has successfully initiated many educational projects.

These projects support hundreds of undergraduate and graduate students as well as high school teachers and students in their pursuit of careers in STEM disciplines as well as their participation in various enhancement activities. Our LSU/BDP Fellows will be able to interact with all levels of educators. This will be achieved through partnership with our on-going educational projects.

For information concerning the LSU/BDP program, please contact:

Dr. Diola Bagayoko, (225)771-2777
<bagayoko@aol.com>

Dr. Su-Seng Pang, (225)578-5892
<mepang@me.lsu.edu>

Dr. Isiah M. Warner, (225)578-2829
<iwarner@lsu.edu>

Dr. Steven F. Watkins, (225)578-3467
<swatkins@lsu.edu>

Mr. Myron Peters, (225)578-0480
<mpete13@lsu.edu> (LSU/AGEP & BDP Coordinator)



(L-R): Myron Peters, Steven F. Watkins, Diola Bagayoko, Isiah M. Warner and Su-Seng Pang

BDP Fellows

ADEYABEBA ABERA
Electrical Engineering

LUIS ALVERGUE
Electrical Engineering

MARIETA BOISDORE
Biological Sciences

LEROY DAVIS
Biological Sciences

CHARISMA EDWARDS
Electrical Engineering

AYESHA HENDERSON
Biological Sciences

LEONARD MOORE
Chemistry

KREGG D. QUARLES
Mechanical Engineering

MONICA SYLVAIN
Chemistry

KANDACE THOMAS
Chemistry

JEFFERY WEST
Biological Sciences

URSULA WHITE
Biological Sciences

ROCHELLE L. WILLIAMS
Engineering Science

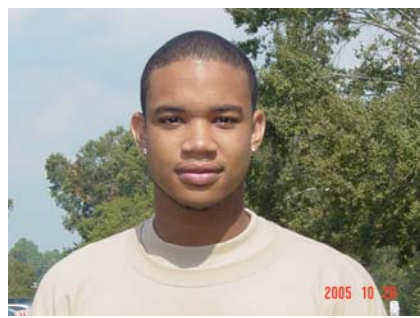
Scholars Speak



Q: In applying APC³ (accuracy, precision, completeness, coherence and clarity) and TEAM (thought, emotion and action management), do you have any remarks about Hurricanes Katrina and Rita and their aftermath?

A: *I feel that if the state and federal government would have applied APC³ in handling rescue and responding to the media their efforts could have been more effective.*

Tynekia Hampton, LS-LAMP Scholar
Major: Civil Engineering,
Southern University and A&M College



Q: In the wake of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, despite the loss of life, the destruction of property and the indescribably severe conditions that remain in the Gulf Coast Region, why is it important to continue to academically excel?

A: *I experienced the disaster first hand. After overcoming the shock, I knew I must continue to move forward. God put us in this world to grow and prosper and serve him. He left me here to continue to do that. I am definitely here for a reason and education is important.*

Larry Smith, LS-LAMP Displaced Scholar

Major: Computer Science
Home Institution: Southern University at New Orleans
Currently Attends: Southern University and A&M College



Q: Do you have any comments in the wake of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita?

A: *It is important to continue to pursue your academic studies. People should always strive to be the best that they can be.*

Yolanda Williams, LS-LAMP Scholar
Major: Biology
Southern University and A&M College

Timbuktu & LS-LAMP Weekly Seminar

The Timbuktu Academy and LS-LAMP weekly seminar plays a critical role in the development of professionalism and sound judgment. It repeatedly emphasizes the need for superior academic performance and provides a clear road map for any student to make a genius out of himself or herself. Topics that are discussed in a variety of different ways include "The Integrated Law

of Human Performance", "How to Study Successfully", "Problem – solving Proficiency by Design", the scientific method in practice, ethics, and the quintessential importance of communication skills.

These topics, to our knowledge is covered nowhere else. Further, the seminars are the place where academic year and summer research placement is discussed and

resolved. The same is true for preparing for the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) and applications to (a) graduate schools and (b) for fellowships and assistantships.

Both Timbuktu Academy and LS-LAMP Scholars, including displaced LS-LAMP Scholars, and staff have to attend.

"The Timbuktu Academy and LS-LAMP weekly seminar plays a critical role in the development of professionalism and sound judgment."



SEA 15th Annual Student Technical Conference

Seven scholars of the Timbuktu Academy and LS-LAMP traveled to Washington, DC on October 12, 2005 to present at the 15th Annual Science and Engineering Alliance (SEA) Student Technical Conference. The 2005 theme: **"SEA Continuing to Create Opportunities and Access for Science and Engineering Careers in partnership with DOE, NIST, and LLNL"** was highlighted throughout the three (3) day conference.

The conference exhibitors included federal agencies, HBCUs and local organizations where they showcased opportunities for student and faculty researchers. Representatives of DOE, NSF, NIST, EPA, National Academy of Science, and LLNL were among those in attendance.

LS-LAMP and Timbuktu Academy undergraduate scholars presenting were: Alrica Joe, a junior Chemistry major, Latoya Lemons, a senior Chemistry major, Brandon Jones, a senior Electrical Engineering major, and Jeffri Davis a junior Electrical Engineering major.

The high school students of the Timbuktu Academy conducted re-

search at Michigan Tech University this past summer. Among the high school academy scholars presenting were Nicolette Taku, a senior at Baton Rouge Magnet High School with a 4.0 GPA. Her research was on the "Examination of Porcine Meniscal Chondrocycle Properties"; Terrance Woods, a senior at McKinley High School with a 4.5 GPA. His research was on the "Glycosaminoglycan Content in the Medical Meniscal Attachments"; and Patrick Carriere, a senior at Baton Rouge Magnet High School with a 4.14 GPA. His research was on the "Effects of Dynamic Compression on Cell Death in Meniscal Explants". Devine Kumah, a graduate student at the University of Michigan and previous Timbuktu Academy scholar presented to the group.

SEA awarded \$42,500 in scholarships and incentive awards to fifty-nine pre-college and college students. Awards ranged from \$500 to \$1,000 per awardee. During the conference, the students seized the opportunity to network with representatives from the federal agencies and with fellow students. At the Banquet Mr. Brandon

Jones was the recipient of the "Hurricane Katrina Award" presented by Dr. Nusrat Naqvi, Professor, Department of Biology at Southern University on behalf of Mr. Malone of Southern University. Dr. Robert Shepard was acknowledged by the LLNL, SEA Headquarters staff and the SEA institutions for his service and dedication in promoting academic excellence for the past 15 years.

Accompanying the scholars to Washington, DC was Ms. Brenda McNeely, LS-LAMP Program Administrator. Ms. McNeely states that "the students represented Timbuktu Academy and Southern University well".



(L-R): Latoya Lemons, Alrica Joe, Brandon Jones and Jeffri Davis

LS-MAMP National Research Conference

By: Tamiara L. Wade

The Louis Stokes Mississippi Alliance for Minority Participation (LS-MAMP) National Research Conference was held on October 19-22, 2005 at the Mississippi e-Center at Jackson State University. Faculty participants from Southern University and A&M College included: Dr. Ella Kelley, LS-LAMP Campus Coordinator and Interim Chair of the Department of Chemistry, Dr. Michelle Claville, Assistant Professor, Department of Chemistry and Dr. Dewayne Logan, Assistant Professor, Department of Chemistry. Several Timbuktu and LAMP Scholars also attended the conference.

Undergraduate students included: Tiffany Beauchamp, Tannus Joubert, Leslie Sanford, Kenie Moses, William Parker and Nebiat Sisay. Nebiat Sisay presented his research at the conference, representing LS-LAMP and Southern University very well.

The LS-LAMP Statewide Management Office expresses its gratitude to the LS-MAMP office and Joan Blanton, LS-MAMP Program Manager, for waiving the registration fee after learning of the necessity for LS-LAMP to cancel its 2005 Student Research Conference in the wake of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING CONFERENCES

February 9 –12, 2006

Sixth Annual HBCU-UP Student Research Conference

Location: Baltimore, MD

Hosted by: Bowie State University

<http://www.hbcu-upconference.com>

February 15 –19, 2006

Joint Annual Conference of the National Society of Black Physicists and the National Society of Hispanic Physicists

Location: San Jose, CA

http://nsbp.org/cgibin/annual_conference.cgi

March 26 – 30, 2006

231st National American Chemical Society Meeting and Exposition

Location: Atlanta, GA

<http://www.chemistry.org/portal/a/c/s/1/acsdisplay>

LS-LAMP Governing Board



DR. DIOLA BAGAYOKO

LS-LAMP Project Director and Co-PI



DR. E. JOSEPH SAVOIE

Chairman, LS-LAMP Governing Board and
Louisiana Commissioner of Higher Education



DR. KERRY DAVIDSON

LS-LAMP Co-PI and Deputy Commissioner for
Sponsored Programs, LA Board of Regents



DR. LURIA STUBBLEFIELD

LS-LAMP Co-PI

LS-LAMP Campus Coordinators

Dr. Diola Bagayoko

Southern University Baton Rouge

Department of Physics

Baton Rouge, LA 70813

V: (225) 771-2730 F: (225) 771-4341

bagayoko@aol.com

Dr. Ella Kelley 771-3990/3992 (f)

elkchem@aol.com

Dr. Abadalla Darwish

Dillard University

Dept. of Physics & Pre-Engineering

2601 Gentilly Blvd.

New Orleans, LA 70122

V: (504) 816-4840 F: (504) 816-4876

adarwish@bellsouth.net

Carmelita Williams: 504-816-4877

Dr. Teng Zhu

Grambling State University

Department of Physics

Carver Hall

Grambling, LA 71245

V: (318) 274-2575 F: (318) 274-3281

lamp_gsu@yahoo.com

Dr. Su-Seng Pang

Louisiana State University

Dept. of Mechanical Engineering

Baton Rouge, LA 70803

V: (225) 578-5892 F: (225) 578-5924

Mepang@me.lsu.edu

Dr. Paul Sammarco

LUMCON

8124 Hwy. 56

Chauvin, LA 70344

V: (985) 851-2876 F: (985) 851-2874

Psammarco@lumcon.edu

Dr. George Mead

McNeese State University

Kirkman Hall

100 Ryan St. and Beauregard Dr.

Lake Charles, LA 70609-2895

V: (337) 475-5785 F: (337) 475-5249

gmead@aol.com

Elizabeth Stevenson: 337-475-5811

Harold Stevenson: 475-5663/5677

Dr. Sharon Flanagan

Nunez Community College

3700 Paris Road

Chalmette, LA 70043

V: (504) 680-2311 F: (504) 680-2274

sflanagan1@lctcs.net

Dr. Joe Omojola

Southern University New Orleans

Department of Physics

6400 Press Drive

New Orleans, LA 70126

V: (504) 286-5128/284-5458

jomojola@suno.edu

Warner Brown

Southern University Shreveport

3050 Martin Luther King, Jr Drive

Shreveport, LA 71107

V: (318) 674-3409 F: (318) 674-3338

wbrown@susla.edu

Dr. Henry Bart

Tulane University

310 Dinwiddie Hall

New Orleans, LA 70118

V: (504) 865-5191 F: (504) 394-5045

hank.bart@gmail.com

Dr. Vijay Raghavan

University of Louisiana-Lafayette

P.O. Box 44330

Lafayette, LA 70504

V: (337) 482-6603 F: (337) 482-5791

raghavan@louisiana.edu

Bobbie Decuir (337) 482-6613,

bobbie@louisiana.edu

Sonja Solomon: 337-482-6828

Dr. Ashok Puri

University of New Orleans

Department of Physics

New Orleans, LA 70418

V: (504) 280-6341 F: (504) 280-6048

purisadhana@yahoo.com

STATEWIDE MANAGEMENT TEAM

PROJECT PRINCIPALS

Dr. Diola Bagayoko, PROJECT DIRECTOR

Dr. Kerry Davidson, CO-PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR, LA BOARD OF REGENTS

Dr. Luria S. Stubblefield, CO-PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR

MANAGEMENT STAFF

Brenda McNeely, PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR

Dr. Saleem Hasan, PROGRAM EVALUATOR

Candace J. Semien, DIRECTOR OF OUTREACH OPERATIONS

Celika C. Murphy, RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

Tamiara L. Wade, EDITOR & GRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANT



AMP

Statewide Management Office

Southern University and A&M College

P.O. Box 9274

Baton Rouge, LA 70813

An official publication of the Louis Stokes Louisiana Alliance for Minority Participation