The Postbaccalaureate Research Education Program (PREP) Scholars is in its seventh year and is funded by a training grant from the National Institute of General Medical Sciences. Dr. Debra Diz is the Director of this program to increase diversity in our graduate school programs by providing research training and academic enhancements for students interested in careers as biomedical scientists. Additional student support for their research projects comes from individual research grants to the faculty mentors.

Our current PREP Scholars have been accepted into the following programs:

- Wake Forest University, Track 4 Biomedical Sciences PhD Program
- University of Wisconsin-Madison, Biomedical Sciences PhD Program
- North Carolina State University, Environmental and Molecular Toxicology PhD Program
- Keck Graduate Institute, Applied Life Sciences PhD Program
- Virginia Tech-Wake Forest University, Bioengineering PhD Program
- North Carolina Central University, Master's in Psychology
- University of South Carolina-Columbia, Biomedical Sciences PhD Program
- North Carolina A & T State University, Master's Program in Agriculture Education and Business Program.

Fifty two trainees participated in the program between 2001 and 2011. A total of 25% of our PREPs came from our summer program Excellence in Cardiovascular Sciences (13). Twenty-one students were offered positions and fifteen entered programs at WFUSM (12 PhD, 1 MD and 2 Master's), 22 entered PhD programs elsewhere. Forty-eight trainees entered graduate programs (34 PhD and 14 Masters) with an 94% retention rate, 7 entered professional schools, 2 are technicians and 5 are teaching math or science (totals more than 52 as some masters students have gone on to PhDs). The majority of these participants were African American (78%); the PREP pipeline contributed ~30% of the minority students in biomedical sciences graduate programs over the past 7 years. Fourteen students have already completed the PhD.

Wake Forest™ School of Medicine

WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY
GRADUATE SCHOOL of ARTS & SCIENCES

2011

POST-BACCALAUREATE RESEARCH EDUCATION PROGRAM (PREP) SCHOLARS POSTER SYMPOSIUM

June 15, 2011
Nutrition Center
Exhibition Hall

PARTICIPANTS

Felicia Amaechi
New Jersey Institute of Technology
Newark, New Jersey
"*Extreme Weight Loss: Effects on Gait* "
Dr. Steven Messier, Advisor

Merissa Baxter
Elon University
Elon, North Carolina
"*The Role of Fragile Site FRA16B in CBFB Breakage and its Involvement in the Inv(16)(p13q22) in Acute Myeloid Leukemia*"
Dr. Yuh-Hwa Wang, Advisor

Guorui Deng
Bucknell University
Lewisburg, Pennsylvania
"*Elucidation of the Role of YB-1 in EGFR Regulation and Breast Cancer"*
Dr. Isabella Berquin, Advisor

Oscar Gonzalez
Longwood University
Farmville, Virginia
"EphA2/ephrinA1 System May Regulate Invadopodia Formation of Glioblastoma Multiforme (GBM) Cells"
Dr. Waldemar Debinski, Advisor

Charisse Holmes
Wake Forest University
Winston-Salem, North Carolina
"Inhibition of Cancer Cell Growth by Muscadine Grape Seed and Grape Skin Extracts"
Drs. Ann Tallant/Patricia Gallagher, Advisors

Jacqueline Jackson
Winston Salem State University
Winston-Salem, North Carolina
"*Regulation of Prostate Cancer Cell Growth by Apoptosis-Inducing Factor*"
Dr. John Wilkinson, Advisor

Darin Johnson
Winston-Salem State University
Winston-Salem, North Carolina
"*A Qualitative Exploration of African American Males Need Endorsement for Integrated Health Equity Promotion""*
Dr. David L. Mount, Advisor

Jeremy E. O'Neal
North Carolina Agricultural & Technical State University
Greensboro, North Carolina
"*CB1 Cannabinoid Receptors and CRIP1a "*
Dr. Allyn Howlett Advisor

Alana Sampson
Virginia Tech
Blacksburg, Virginia
"*Keratin Coating of Transcutaneous Bone-Anchored Implants for Improved Skin-Implant Interface*"
Dr. Mark Van Dyke, Advisor