

Drop-In News

Auburn University
2003-2004

College of Sciences and Mathematics
Minority Drop-In Center

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Welcome, Mrs. Florence Holland

The Minority Drop-In Center is pleased to announce the arrival of Mrs. Florence Holland. Mrs. Holland serves as the Colleges' Minority Programs Coordinator. She started her position in July and has become a real asset to our office. Mrs. Holland primary responsibilities include recruiting minority students for the college, advising and counseling current students. She is also charged with the retention of students and tries to accomplish this through planning

activities, meetings, and programs for minority students in the college.

When asked about how Mrs. Holland is adjusting to her new position and Auburn, "I love this job. I really like the responsibility and the freedom given to create programs and activities that will help our minority students succeed here at Auburn University."

Mrs. Holland is a graduate of Virginia Tech where she received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Mathematics. She also holds a Master's of Arts in

Educational Administration from Ball State University. She previously taught high school and middle school mathematics and is currently pursuing a doctorate of education in educational leadership.

Welcome, Mrs. Florence Holland!

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Fall LSAMP/AGEP Executive Meeting to be held at Auburn

The Alabama Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (LSAMP) and the Alliance for Graduate Education and the Professoriate (AGEP) will hold its Fall Executive Meeting here at Auburn. The meeting will take course over a two day period – Sunday, September 28, 2003 and Monday, September 29, 2003 and will be held at the Auburn University Dixon Hotel and Conference Center. At this meeting, the alliance will discuss future plans

and current events and happenings at the individual universities and institutions.

LSAMP/AGEP is an alliance that is comprised of twelve universities and institutions.

This alliance is dedicated to increasing the quality and quantity of underrepresented minorities majoring in the science, engineering, or mathematics disciplines. The LSAMP/AGEP

alliance is responsible financially for several of the programs and scholarships that are run through the Minority Drop-In Center.

We are excited and pleased about this hosting opportunity.

Student Opportunities

GEM Fellowship

The GEM Fellowship programs are designed to offer opportunities for underrepresented minority students to obtain MS degrees in engineering and Ph.D. degrees in engineering and the natural and physical sciences through a program of paid summer internships and graduate financial assistance. **Application deadline: December 1.** For application and more information: http://was.nd.edu/gem/gemwebapp/gem_00_000.htm.

Ford Foundation Fellowships for Minorities

Planning a career in teaching and research at the college or university level? Then check this website out – <http://national-academies.org/fellowships>. \$17,000 – \$40,000 individual stipends available for minority students.

National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship

Fellowships available for graduate study leading to research-based master's or doctoral degrees in the fields of science, mathematics, and engineering. Each three-year fellowship provides a stipend of \$27,500 for 12-month tenures, and a cost-of-education allowance of \$10,500 per tenure year. More information? – www.nsf.gov/grfp.

Summer Bridge Program

On July 6, 2003, twenty-seven students were added to the list of the summer bridge participant list, making the number of students affected by the Minority Drop-In Center's Summer Bridge Program 207! These 27 students came from all over Alabama as well as from Georgia and Kentucky. These students participated in classes of chemistry and mathematics with daily workshop sessions. The students quickly had to adjust to the fast paced schedule of classes and constant studying. Participants also went on several field trips – Briggs Stratton Plant, Uniroyal Plant, Coca-Cola Plant. They were also invited to Auburn University President's House. They enjoyed the afternoon with the President's wife, Myrna Walker.

The Summer Bridge Program concluded with a luncheon on August 1, 2003. The students were very surprised to see their special guest speaker – NBA great Charles Barkley. He delivered a poignant message of the importance of obtaining a college degree. He also expressed just how taken aback he was to see this many young, African-American students interested in the science and mathematics fields.

Would you like to see pictures of the summer bridge students and Charles Barkley? Check out website at www.auburn.edu/cosam/minority !



Charles Barkley and Dr. Jenda share a humorous moment.

“Ever tried, ever failed? No matter. Try again. Fail again. Fail better.”
-- Samuel Beckett

Graduate School Fair

Minority Drop-In Center

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We're on the Web!

See us at:

[http://www.auburn.edu/
cosam/minority](http://www.auburn.edu/cosam/minority)

On Monday, October 6, 2003, several Auburn students will travel on behalf of the Minority Drop-In Center to the University of Alabama at Birmingham. The fair is attended by students from Historically Black Colleges and Universities in Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi, and Tennessee, majoring in science, engineering, and mathematics. This is an excellent opportunity for students to visit with recruiters and graduate school representatives of their choice and receive literature that will assist them in the decision making processes regarding graduate school.

Those representing Auburn University and the Minority Drop-In Center will be: Angela Bell, Charria Campbell, Carma Cook, Tiffany Davis, Jonathan Dixon, Derek Forston, Iris Hill, Jamal Holloway, Angela Peterson, LaToya Peterson, Carl Pettis, Charmaine Porter, Calvin Poindexter, Randall Sharpe, Jana Smith, Herman Turner, and Michele Williams.

We know they will represent us well!

Auburn Awarded National Science Foundation Grant

In the summer of 2003, the National Science Foundation solicited proposals from Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation institutions for a minority Bridge to the Doctorate program.

This program was developed to help increase the number of minority students in the fields of science and mathematics in graduate school and to encourage these students to seek a doctoral degree as well. Dr. Overtoun Jenda submitted a proposal and the grant was awarded.

The grant allowed Auburn to select ten (10) students from partner Alabama LSAMP institutions. Each student receives a stipend of \$27,500, full tuition, health insurance, and a travel allowance. These ten students started their graduate work here at Auburn this

fall. These ten students should be commended on their dedication and commitment to achieving higher educational goals. We wish them the best of luck here at Auburn and know they will make us proud!

Ten Participants and their Field of Study

Angela Bell – Chemistry

Carma Cook – Chemistry

Derek Forston – Biology

Iris Hill – Biology

Angela Peterson – Mathematics

LaToya Peterson – Mathematics

Carl Pettis – Mathematics

Charmaine Porter – Biology

Jana Smith - Biology

Michele Williams – Computer Science



Don't Forget:

- *Future SEM Faculty Club Meeting – September 24, 2003, 324 Parker Hall*
- *Workshops still going on! Check out the schedule on our website!*
- *October 10, 2003 – 37th day – last day to drop without Dean permission*