

Welcome from Associate Vice President – HS-MACA



On behalf of Health Sciences, Multicultural and Community Affairs (HS-MACA), I welcome you to Creighton University and to Omaha. HS-MACA's friendly staff is here to help you build bridges between yourself and the rest of the Creighton community and to provide you with academic support and enrichment activities.

"Service to others" is part of the University's mission. HS-MACA staff will provide you with information about volunteer and community activities in which you can become involved. We encourage you to join student organizations like the Student National Medical Association (SNMA), the Minority Health Science Student's Association (MHSSA), the Vietnamese Student Organization (VSO) and the Asian Pacific American Medical Student Association (APAMST).

Forging positive relationships and networking is an essential ingredient of succeeding in the world. Participating in HS-MACA's "Mentoring" program may present you with the opportunity to meet a life-long colleague and friend. The mentoring program, in its sixth year, is a rewarding way to share your knowledge and experiences with "younger" students or glean expertise from an upper class person. This program continues to expand and has been invaluable to many newcomers.

We take pride in the HS-MACA mission: "To recruit and retain underrepresented minority students and provide diversity awareness to the entire Creighton University community." You are presented many opportunities to contribute to HS-MACA's mission and we welcome you to learn more about us and share in our valued mission.

Sade Kosoko-Lasaki, MD, MSPH, MBA
Associate Vice President

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HCOP SUMMER ACADEMY AWARDS CEREMONY HONORS STUDENTS

by Barb Slattery, MA



The year 2006 marked the seventh summer that Creighton's Health Careers Opportunity Program, (HCOP) has held its six-week Academy for high school and college students. Students were chosen to participate based on tough scrutiny including top GPA criteria. Fifty students who were chosen took rigorous classes in math, science, literature, anatomy, organic chemistry, and biology to name a few. Every week, students participated in field trips and Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) training. Invited speakers engaged the students in discussion about the various health careers. College students were given the opportunity to rotate through the Creighton University Medical Center hospital and clinics for hands on observation and shadowing.

The students who successfully completed the academy were recognized on Saturday, July 22 at a breakfast ceremony held in their honor. Top students in each of the following divisions: most improved students, leadership instructors' recognition, and perfect attendance received awards. Listed below are some of the students that received awards for their efforts.

Top Student for College II Level:

Candice Parker- Michigan State University

Stacy Pladera – Creighton University

Top Student for College I:

Neil Bhattarai – Creighton University

Most Improved College I:

Luis Vazquez – Creighton University

Natalia Trinidad – Creighton University

Top Student for High School Level:

Lonzale Ramsey – Central High School

Most Improved Student, High School:

Ely Ramos – Bryan High School

Leadership Awards:

Lonzale Ramsey – Central High School

Jessica White – Bellevue West High

Diana Ramos – Creighton University

Veronica Hernandez – Creighton University

In addition, one teacher, Mrs. Sharon Solsky, was honored for her seven years of loyalty to the HCOP Program by teaching Chemistry and Organic Chemistry since the inception of HCOP at Creighton.

The HS-MACA Staff are very proud of the participants, the effort they put into their work and their professionalism.

WELCOME NEW POST-BACCALAUREATE STUDENTS

by Susan Low

The Premedical and Predental Post-baccalaureate Certificate Program got off to a good start on June 5 when seven premedical and five predental students arrived for the Summer Diagnostic Session.

HS-MACA, in collaboration with the Creighton University School of Medicine and School of Dentistry, administers the Post-baccalaureate Certificate Program while the Creighton University College of Arts and Sciences professors teach the classes.

The following details the colleges the students attended and their state of origin:

Premedical Post-bac 2006-2007

Loan Bui – University of California/Los Angeles

Roberto Cervantes – Arizona State University/AZ

Chala Chiri – Saint Olaf College/Minnesota

Maryal Concepcion – University of California/Davis

Nam Dinh – Gonzaga University/Washington

Gina Huss – University of Iowa/Iowa

Kathryn Norby – University of Nebraska/Omaha

Predental Post-bac 2006-2007

Huunha Nguyen – Texas A&M University/Texas

Nicole Pham – University of California/Riverside

Pukar Rajbhandari – Creighton University/Nebraska

Aaron Salinas – Oklahoma City University/OK

Billie Torres – University of New Mexico/NM

The staff of HS-MACA welcome you to Creighton University and wish you a successful year!

SUMMER RESEARCH INSTITUTE (SRI)

By Channing Bunch



Five students from Omaha area high schools and six college students from other states participated in an 8 to 10 week Summer Research

Program. The program was sponsored by the office of HS-MACA through a grant from the National Institute of Health. The students, paired with a faculty-mentor, participated in biomedical research in the mentors' lab. In addition, these students participated in roundtable discussions and weekly seminar series.

The climax of the program was the Research Colloquium on August 3. Dr. Richard Goering, Chair, Department of Medical Microbiology, was the keynote speaker for the awards banquet. His topic for the young researchers was ***"Life at the Bench: Understanding Issues that can Influence the Success or Failure of Scientific Research."*** Each SRI student participant gave an oral presentation and a poster outlining their research. The presentations were judged by biomedical graduate students and other researchers at Creighton University. The results were as follows:

For Best Research Performance - College level:

1st place— **John Ikhen**a – Creighton University, 2nd place— **Sasha Robinson** –Florida State University, and 3rd place **Carmen Evans** - Creighton University. Honorable Mention – **LaKira Brown** – Johnson C. Smith, **Adjei Mensah**, Bowie State University and **Samelia Okpodu** – Norfolk State University.

For Best Research Performance - High School:

1st place— **Remen Okoruwa**, Creighton Prep, 2nd place— **Shuona Wang** – Central High, 3rd place **Caitlyn Gomez** – Duchesne Academy. Honorable Mention – **Andrea Rice** – Millard West and **Song Zheng** – Bryan High

Finally, the high school students visited the National Institute of Health in Bethesda, Maryland and the National Medicine of Science in Washington, DC as part of their exposure to science research.

Seven of the SRI students have recently been selected

to present their research at Temple University's Minority Forum in Sunny Isles, Florida, September 6 – 10.

College Division

LaKira Brown,
Senior
Johnson C. Smith
University
Charlotte, NC

*Effect of Isoprotane
on Endogenous
Amino Acid
Transmitters in
Bovine Eyeballs
The Effect of Tumor
necrosis factor-alpha
on the connexin-43
expression in human
vascular among
muscle cells*

Catherine Opere,
PhD
School of Pharmacy
& Health
Professions

John Ikhen,a,
Sophomore
Creighton
University
Omaha, Nebraska

*Application of
Differential scanning
Calorimeter in
Developing Protein
Formulation
The Effect of
Calcium in Orange
Juice on the Oral
Absorbance of
Doxycycline and
Ciprofloxacin*

Devendra Agrawal,
PhD
Department of
Biomedical Sciences

Adjei Mensah,
Senior
Bowie State
University
Bowie, Maryland

Somanth Singh,
PhD
School of Pharmacy
& Health
Professions

Sameila Okpodu,
Junior
Norfolk State
University
Norfolk, Virginia

Alekha K. Dash,
PhD
School of Pharmacy
& Health
Professions

High School Division

Caitlyn Gomez,
Senior Duchesne
Academy
Omaha, Nebraska
Andrea Rice,
Senior
Millard West
High
Millard, Nebraska
Shuona Wang,
Senior
Central High
Omaha, Nebraska

*The Effect of IGF-I
on the Expression of
SOCS-3 in Breast
Cancer Cells
Interleukin-8(IL-8)
Expression Due to
Helicobacter pylori
in a Tissue Culture
Model
Regulation of
Prostate Cancer Cell
Migration by RGS
Proteins*

Devendra Agrawal,
PhD
Department of
Biomedical Sciences

Archana Chatterjee,
MD, PhD
Department of
Pediatric

Yaping Tu, PhD
Department of
Pharmacology



COMMUNITY ORIENTED PRIMARY CARE, (COPC)

by Coletta Hollingsworth



We are currently racing into the third year of the Community-Oriented Primary Care, (COPC) research endowment which is funded by the National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NCMHD). This summer we implemented two objectives. The objectives are as follows:

Objective 1-1: Establish an endowed summer research program to support three (3) pre-clinical medical students per year in an eight-week COPC public health research assistantship during the summer following their first year of medical school to increase the students' knowledge of and expose them to health disparities issues.

Objective 1-2: Establish an endowed community research elective to support two (2) fourth-year medical students per year in a longitudinal COPC public health research experience to increase the students' knowledge of and expose them to health disparities issues.

In the summer of 2006, we had three medical students (one M2 and two M3s) who conducted endowment supported summer research. Their research topics were as follows:

1. Acceptance of Illness and Pain and functional Outcomes in Patients with HIV/AIDS
2. Acceptance of Diabetes Across Psychosocial Subgroups from a Rural Primary Care Setting
3. Hawaii "Mini Medical School Project"

We want to invite you to *Common Ground Kickoff* on Friday, September 8, 2006 in the Criss building L 58.

September 8, 2006	Kick Off/Introduction
September 15, 2006	Retreat No Common Ground
September 22, 2006	Danielle Potter
September 29, 2006	Violet Illuebbey
October 6, 2006	Dr. Kosoko-Lasaki

COMMUNITY ORIENTED PRIMARY CARE (COPC) INTRODUCES TUTORING

We are excited to announce the next objective in our Community Oriented Primary Care Endowment which is funded by NCMHD. Objective 2.2 is to establish an endowed program for training medical tutors to increase the academic success rate of medical students. The COPC Coordinator, Coletta Hollingsworth, will work with Linda Pappas, the Academic Success Coordinator to coordinate and implement this upcoming objective.

CENTER OF EXCELLENCE (COE) PRE-MATRICULATION PROGRAM

by Becky Messenger

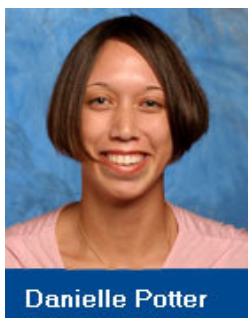
This summer, HS-MACA coordinated three Pre-Matriculation programs for Health Science students preparing to matriculate into medical, dental and pharmacy school. The programs include enrichment courses in core subject areas in a small group setting. Students were able to interact with Creighton faculty members before professional school officially began, while becoming acquainted with campus and the Omaha area. In addition, Pre-matriculation Pharmacy students were also afforded the opportunity to shadow pharmacists in a variety of settings.

This is the third year for the Medical School Pre-Matriculation program which was funded through HRSA's Center of Excellence grant. There were nine participants in the program this summer. The Dental and Pharmacy Pre-Matriculation programs are new additions to the HS-MACA summer Pre-matriculation programming. Four students from the School of Dentistry and two students from the School of Pharmacy and Health Professions participated in the program.



Outstanding Creighton University Medical Student Named AMA Foundation Minority Scholar

by Dina Lindenberg, AMA Foundation



Danielle Potter

The American Medical Association (AMA) Foundation is proud to announce Danielle Potter of Creighton University School of Medicine, as a 2006 Minority Scholars Award recipient. As one of only 10 medical students in the country, she will receive a \$10,000 scholarship in recognition of her excellence as a medical student and outstanding promise for a future career in medicine.

From Honolulu, Hawaii, Potter is a first-year medical student at Creighton University School of Medicine. She is a graduate of University of Northern Colorado and has received many academic honors. She serves as the Community Service Chair for the Student National Medical Association and volunteered at Minority Bone Marrow drives at Omaha community health fairs. She spent her spring break this year at the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota, in the poorest county of the United States, where she taught basic anatomy to students. For two years she has assisted with labor and delivery classes at the North Hawaii Community Hospital on the Big Island of Hawaii. Potter also traveled to Cambodia and Manila, to work at different clinics in those areas.

The Minority Scholars Award recognizes scholastic achievement and promise for the future among students in groups defined as "historically underrepresented" in the medical profession. Less than seven percent of U.S. physicians fall within these groups, which include African American/Black, American Indian, Native Hawaiian, Alaska Native and Hispanic/Latino.

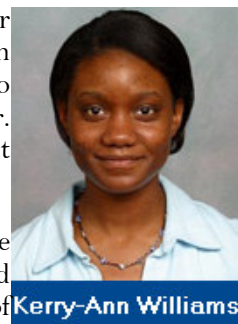
"We are pleased to recognize the outstanding achievements of Danielle Potter, and to provide her with substantial financial assistance for medical school," said Peter Carmel, M.D., AMA Foundation President. "The AMA Foundation is committed to introducing more minorities into the medical profession in order to better reflect the needs of our diverse society. We must ensure the cost of medical education remains within reach of our most talented students."

Former Student National Medical Association President Selected for Senior Award

by Creighton University School of Medicine

Kerry-Ann Williams, third-year medical student at Creighton University, has been selected to receive a University of Pittsburgh Dr. Thomas Detre Senior Medical Student Award in Psychiatry.

This is the third year that the Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic, and the Department of Psychiatry of the University of Pittsburgh School Of Medicine, have given this award to advanced students planning a career within psychiatry.



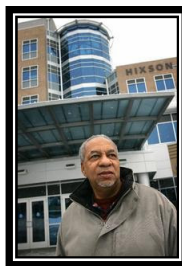
Kerry-Ann Williams

Awardees have the opportunity to create a unique one-month clinical sub-internship or research experience with a faculty member at the University of Pittsburgh, where the clinical and research faculty are world-renowned for contributions in pharmacotherapy, psychotherapy, child and adolescent psychiatry, geriatric psychiatry, mood disorders, schizophrenia, anxiety disorders, eating disorders, and substance use disorders.



“Creighton exists for students and learning”
- CU Mission Statement

HS-MACA Community Liaison Honored



Frank T. Peak, Administrator of Community Outreach Services at Creighton University Medical Center Partnership in Health and HS-MACA Community Liaison received the Gloria Hobson Social Equity Award to honor his service to the public sector. This award honors those who have toiled long years in the cause of social equity. This award was presented to Mr. Peak in April of 2006.

Creighton Glaucoma Screening Initiative Hits the Road

by Kathryn Clark



Creighton University's Glaucoma Screening Initiative will expand its efforts to serve a five-state area.

On July 13, Creighton's Office of Health Sciences' Multicultural and Community Affairs (HS-MACA) dedicated a new van that will be used to bring the division's free glaucoma-screening program to at-risk populations in Nebraska, Iowa, South Dakota, Kansas, Missouri and Colorado. The dedication took place at 3 p.m. in the Hixson-Lied Science Building atrium.

Since 2001, HS-MACA has reached out to populations that are at particular risk of developing glaucoma, including African Americans and Hispanics, through free eye screenings and educational programs and materials. Until now, those efforts have been limited primarily to north and south Omaha and several Native American reservations in Nebraska.

"Last year, we screened about 1,500 individuals in Nebraska and reached 10,000 through programs and materials. With the van, we will be able to double those numbers to at least 3,000 (screenings)," said Sade Kosoko-Lasaki, M.D., Creighton associate vice president for the health sciences.

"An estimated 2.5 million Americans have glaucoma, and half of those individuals are unaware that they suffer from the disease, the second-leading cause of blindness in the United States. Early detection is critical in treating glaucoma," Kosoko-Lasaki noted.

Hispanics and African Americans over the age of 40, individuals 65 and older, people with family history of glaucoma, hypertension, diabetes, and those who have experienced a serious eye injury are at higher risk of glaucoma. She said at-risk individuals should have complete eye exams at least every one to two years.

Creighton's Glaucoma Screening Initiative is "not a magic solution, but it gives us a baseline measurement," Kosoko-Lasaki remarked. The initiative also helps to identify eye-care providers who may offer follow-up care at no or reduced cost to individuals who cannot pay for those services.

The Friends of the Congressional Glaucoma Caucus Foundation in New York helps support Creighton's Glaucoma Screening Initiative. Health-care providers

who are interested in offering their services to help treat individuals diagnosed with glaucoma and other eye disorders through the initiative, should call (402) 280- 2332.

Glaucoma Awareness Schedule

Date	Location	City/State	Time
10/25/06	Union Pacific	Omaha, Nebraska	7:00am – 6:00pm
10/31-11/01/06	Paradigms of Health for Communities of Color Holiday Inn Convention	Kearney, Nebraska	TBA

King Science and Technology Center Discovery Research Institute, (DRI)

By Channing Bunch

Discovery Research Institute (DRI) an Experimental Program To Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) funded program provides introduction to the career of laboratory research. Discovery's purpose is to facilitate young people's first-hand experiences and learn about the aspects of scientific research and its importance to the environment. King Science and Technology Center began on June 12 and ended on June 26, 2006. The program exposed 15 high school students to research experience at King Science and Technology Center where the classes were held from 8:00am – 4:00pm, Monday - Friday.

The two-week program consisted of activities, field trips and learning about agricultural and laboratory research. On the first day of the program students visited The Nebraska Prairie Museum to gather research on prairies. Through out the two –week students designed a prairie which is located on the west side of their school. The students planted sod and a various plants. The program invited speakers from Iowa and Nebraska to assist the students in designing and educating the students on the prairies.

The program closing ceremony, the students performed a skit called "The Lonesome Prairie" and made Buffalo stew for dinner. The students presented their "prairie" to thirty – three (33) parents and friends. Diane Cullen, PhD, Faculty member of Biomedical Sciences at Creighton University was the keynote speaker. Dr. Cullen topic was "How to be a Scientist."

YWCA Tribute to Women Recognizes Sade Kosoko-Lasaki

Sade Kosoko-Lasaki, M.D., Creighton associate vice president for the health sciences, was one of 10 women recognized for the YWCA Omaha Women of Distinction Award, "Eliminating Racism, Empowering Women" during the 19th Annual Tribute to Women, one of Omaha's largest events focused on increasing awareness of the tremendous contributions women make in the community. Kosoko-Lasaki was recognized for her efforts in the medical professions. The event is a fund-raiser for the YWCA in Omaha. More than 800 business professionals and community leaders attend the luncheon each year.

Prevent Blindness Nebraska Honored Margaret Black at it Annual Meeting



Prevent Blindness Nebraska held its annual meeting on Thursday, August 10th at the Happy Hollow Country Club. Among the many awards that were presented, Margaret Black, Ophthalmologic Technician with Creighton University's Division of Ophthalmology, received the Individual Appreciation Award for her dedication to glaucoma awareness and vision screenings. Congratulation!

Please visit HS-MACA website at

<http://www2.creighton.edu/health/hsmaca/>

For updates and list of staff and contact information

Health Sciences
Multicultural and Community Affairs



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

COMMON GROUND

EVERY FRIDAY 11:30 A.M. – 1:30 P.M.
L58

HS-MACA Staff Retreat

September 15, 2006

CULTURAL AWARENESS SEMINAR FOR MEDICAL STUDENTS

September 22, 2006

MENTORING MEETING

September 11, 2006

Location: Skutt Student Center

Time: 5:00 pm – 6:30pm

November 20, 2006

Location: Skutt Student Center

Time: 5:00pm – 6:30pm

February 5, 2007

Location: Skutt Student Center

Time: 5:00pm – 6:30pm

April 9, 2007

Location: Skutt Student Center

Time: 5:00pm – 6:30pm

POSTBACCALAUREATE REUNION

April 20 – 21, 2007

Location TBA

HS-MACA GRADUATION BANQUET

April 20, 2007

Skutt Student Center

