Mentor Profile

**JOSEPH L. HENRY, D.D.S., PH.D.**

To say that Dr. Joseph Henry's 25-page curriculum vitae and list of accomplishments are impressive would be a gross understatement. But equally impressive are Henry's contributions to the world of academic dentistry through the many people he has taught and mentored over the years.

Henry, who was born in New Orleans, Louisiana, graduated first in his class from the Howard University College of Dentistry in 1946 and immediately joined the school's faculty. He stayed at Howard until 1975, when he left to become the first black professor in the history of the Harvard University School of Dental Medicine. He held several positions at Harvard, including Chairman of the Department of Oral Diagnosis and Oral Radiology, Professor of Oral Medicine and Diagnostic Sciences, Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs, and Interim Dean of the School of Dental Medicine. When he retired from the school in 1995, Henry was appointed Professor of Oral Diagnosis, Emeritus.

Henry has been involved with the BSCP since it was founded and says he has been to most, if not all, of the BSCP student conferences. He has sat on several panels, offering advice to students on preparing themselves for careers in medicine or dentistry. He has also mentored a great number of high school and college students he met at BSCP conferences, placing a number of them in the Harvard medical area, and referring others to institutions throughout the country. "Some of the students I worked with were interested in summer internships," he recalls. "I helped them find mentors who would work with them, and many went on to do great things."

Asked what advice he would give minority students interested in the biomedical field, Henry has a simple answer: "Try to get a mentor. A lot of these students are groping for a foundation," he continues, "and the right contacts can help ground them."

To that end, Henry has sponsored programs and held workshops on mentoring. And he mentored more than 40 students during his career at the Dental School. "By the time these kids get to Harvard, they know they are at a good school and that a lot will be expected of them. But they don't know how to begin."

When he was teaching, Henry made it a regular practice to invite students who came from far away and didn't have plans to go home for the holidays to his home for Thanksgiving and Christmas. "I would post invitations at the school and arrange transportation to bring them to my home and back to school. We'd eat, play games..." he says. "When it was time to leave, I always said, 'this is not a free din-

continued on page 2
Mentor Profile
continued from page 1

ner. You have an obligation now. When you succeed, I want you to
do this for others."

Today Henry finds that he is call-
ing on people he mentored and ask-
ing them to mentor students. And he
is still involved in the careers of his
former mentees, many of whom
have gone on to hold prominent po-
positions both in academia and with
the National Dental Association.
One of his former students became
the first female dean of a dental
school. "She was my right hand [at
Howard University] before I came
to Harvard," he explains. "When I
left, I encouraged her to apply to be-
come dean. And she did.

"It's not always enough just to
mentor," he continues. "You've got
to follow them and push them."
Any student would be very lucky to
receive a push from Dr. Henry — or
from anyone he recommends.

University of Connecticut Summer Programs

The University of Connecticut has
a host of summer programs for stu-
dents in high school through post-
college. Read on to see which
one(s) interest you. Contact infor-
mation is included.

High School Student Research
Apprentice Program

The High School Student Re-
search Apprentice Program is a six-
week summer program for high
school students 16 years of age and
older who have completed their
sophomore, junior or senior year
and have indicated an interest in
medicine, dental medicine or bio-
medical research. This program
provides the students with a re-
search experience in one of the basic
science or clinical laboratories at the
University of Connecticut Health
Center or the Veterans Administra-
tion Hospital in Newington.

Selected participants must be
able to commute daily to either the
University of Connecticut Health
Center or to the Veterans Adminis-
tration Hospital in Newington.
Participants are salaried at the pre-
vailing minimum wage, up to a
maximum of $2,000. Students who
are selected to participate in the
summer research program also
have the opportunity to participate
in the High School Mini Med-
ical/Dental Program during the fol-
lowing academic year.

Pre-College Enrichment
Program

This is a six-week summer pro-
gram for college pre-freshmen, de-
dsigned to provide sound develop-
ment of scientific, mathematical,
communications, problem-solving,
and test-taking skills. The purpose
of the program is to enhance the
preparation of high school seniors
for college and to increase the re-
tention of freshmen already ad-
mitted to college. The program will
consist of 27 hours per week of for-
mal lecture, laboratory, and directed
study. Lectures in each of the
following subjects will be provided:
biology, general chemistry, Eng-
lish, reading, and mathematics. A
study skills course focusing on
problem solving and test taking will
be conducted. Seminars on topics
related to the health professions
will be presented. Room and board
and an $800 stipend are provided.

College Enrichment Program

This is a six-week summer pro-
garm for college freshmen and
sophomores, designed to provide
sound development of scientific
and mathematical skills. The pur-
pose of this program is to increase
the retention of freshmen and
sophomores admitted to college.
The program will consist of 27
hours per week of formal lecture,
laboratory, and directed study.
Courses in biology, calculus, or-
ganic/biochemistry, and physics
will be offered. Room and board
and an $800 stipend are provided.

Medical/Dental Preparatory
Program

The Medical/Dental Prepara-
tory Program is a six-week summer
program designed to provide a re-
inforcement and enrichment expe-
rience for students from disadvan-
taged backgrounds who expect to
apply to professional schools of
medicine and dental medicine. The
purposes of the program are to fa-
cilitate the entry of these students
into professional school by improv-
ing their performance on admission
tests and through professional de-
velopment activities, and to in-
crease the retention of successful
matriculants to professional school
through early exposure to profes-
sional education.

Two tracks are available. Track
One is for students who will be tak-
ing the August Medical College Ad-
mission Test (MCAT) or October
Dental Admission Test (DAT). The
program will focus on MCAT/DAT
test preparation, clinical interaction
with preceptors, and introduction
to problem-based learning through
case studies. Track Two is for all
students not on Track One. The
program will consist of a basic med-
ical sciences course, emphasizing
essential principles of cell and
molecular biology correlated to
problem-based learning case stud-
ies. Clinical experiences and profes-
sional development exercises will
also be presented. Room and board
and a $1,000 stipend are provided.

Summer Research Fellowship
Program

The Summer Research Fellow-
ship Program is a twelve-week
program designed to give under-
graduate college students who are
interested in a career in medicine,
dental medicine or biomedical
research a research enrichment
experience, as well as exposure to
clinical or dental medicine. Appli-
cants should have completed some
college coursework in biology and
chemistry (preferably through or-
ganic chemistry). A variety of re-
search projects are available.

continued on page 3
Our students are saying . . .

Attending the Biomedical Science Careers Student Conference at The Boston Park Plaza Hotel resulted in a number of unforeseen benefits. I had the opportunity to meet scientists in medicine, industry, education, and government. I have maintained communication with these individuals since the conference. Networking with these individuals has provided me with unique insight into their day-to-day activities. They have become my mentors and advisors, providing advice and suggestions on a variety of professional issues.

Additional advantages have arisen as my new mentors have now incorporated me into their vast network array, often arranging for me to meet with their colleagues. These experiences were a direct result of my attending the Conference and applying the suggestions presented during the workshops.

Marion V. Brown Ph.D. Candidate
University of Connecticut
Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology

Summer Programs
continued from page 2

Minority Access to Research Careers (MARC) students are encouraged to apply. A stipend of $3,000 will be provided.

Applicants for the programs above must be from groups that have been traditionally underrepresented in the health professions (African American, Mexican American, Native American, Puerto Rican Mainland), or others from disadvantaged backgrounds who meet all eligibility criteria and have a high probability of fulfilling the social and educational goals of this program.

Pre-Service Science Teacher Summer Fellowship Program

The purpose of the program is to allow college students with career interests as science teachers to increase their knowledge and skills in modern research tools and techniques by participating in a basic science research project for six weeks during the summer. A faculty sponsor will be identified for each participant. Faculty will develop and make available suitable project descriptions. The pre-service science teacher will meet with the faculty member prior to the start of the program to develop a research protocol. The teacher will commit approximately 30 hours per week to the project and will work with the faculty sponsor or his or her designee. A $5,500 stipend will be provided.

The program is open to Connecticut college students who plan to teach life sciences to a significant number of disadvantaged students.

Science Teacher Summer Fellowship Program

The purpose of the program is to allow science teachers to update their knowledge and skills in modern research tools and techniques by participating in a basic science research project for six weeks during the summer. A faculty sponsor will be identified for each teacher. Faculty will develop and make available suitable project descriptions. The science teacher will meet with the faculty member prior to the start of the program to develop a research protocol. The teacher will commit approximately 30 hours per week to the project and will work with the faculty sponsor or his or her designee. A $3,300 stipend will be provided.

The program is open to Connecticut elementary, middle, junior-high and high-school science teachers who teach life sciences to a significant number of disadvantaged students.

For more information, call (860) 679-3483, e-mail: ifigueroa@nso1.uchc.edu, or visit our Web site: http://it.uchc.edu/HPPI.

Academic Opportunities

Summer Ecology Internship

The department of Organismic and Evolutionary Biology at Harvard University is looking to hire students for a summer ecology internship at the Harvard Forest. Students must be undergraduates (not necessarily at Harvard) who belong to one of the following groups underrepresented in ecology: Black/African American, Chicano/Mexican American, Caribbean/West Indian, Spanish American/Hispanic, or Native American.

The position involves assisting forest ecology researchers in the field and the laboratory, and conducting and presenting original research. There are also many natural areas nearby for hiking, swimming, canoeing, and biking. Interns live in a dorm on the Forest property and eat in the dining hall. Interns earn $4,200 for 12 weeks. Room and board cost is $100/week. The program begins June 1.

Students interested in applying for the internship should contact Christine Muth by e-mail: cmuth@oeb.harvard.edu or telephone 617-496-8942.

ASPH Public Health System Fellowship Opportunities

The Association of Schools of Public Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention sponsor fellowships aimed at providing leadership training in public health and prevention and practice policy. Fellows will have access to state-of-the-art technology and databases, acquire skills and knowledge to enhance their careers, and work with leading experts in the field of public health.

The fellowships are open to pre- and post-doctoral degree students and early career professionals with MPH or doctoral degrees. Applicants must be affiliated with the ASPH Council on Education in Public Health-accredited schools of public health.

continued on page 4
Academic Opportunities

continued from page 3

Fellowship positions are for one or two years, beginning in September, 1999. The application deadline is May 14. For applications or more information, contact

ASHP Office for Internship/Fellowship Programs
1543 Highway 138 SE, Suite 326
Conyers, GA 30013
Phone: (770) 918-8073
Internet Address: www.ashp.org "Prospective Student Information"

Harvard Pilgrim Health Care
Elective in Managed Care for Minority Residents

Harvard Pilgrim Health Care offers a one-month elective in managed care for PGY2 and PGY3 minority residents in primary care. The elective provides a direct experience of practicing in a large, academic HMO setting. HPHC is one of the largest and most respected HMOs in New England, with health centers in urban and suburban locations in eastern Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

Residents will practice with a precepting physician in primary care, urgent care and various specialties. A series of seminars with senior physician leaders is arranged covering topics such as quality of care, utilization, ethics, clinical guidelines, and patient-doctor relationships. Special rounds in primary care are arranged at the Brigham and Women’s Hospital in Boston once a week. An experience in community service is built into the elective. Experience in administration, research or health planning can be arranged at the resident’s individual interest.

For more information, contact
Richard Bail, MD, MPH
Education Director
Elective Program in Managed Care
Physician Recruitment and Career Development
10 Brookline Place West
Brookline, MA 02445-7229
(617) 731-8275

Save the Dates for BSCP Events

An Evening of Hope: Second annual BSCP fund-raising dinner
Chair: Wendell J. Knox, President and CEO, Abt Associates Inc.
Honorees: Henri A. Termeer, Chairman and CEO, Genzyme Corporation
Benearee P. Wiley, President and CEO, The Partnership, Inc.
Five student scholarships will be awarded.
Westin Hotel Copley Place, Boston
Wednesday, May 5, 1999

Career Development Series: Running Effective Meetings
Presented by Harry L. Greene II, MD, Executive Director of the Massachusetts Medical Society.
For Physicians in Post-doctoral Training, Junior Faculty, and Residents
Longwood Galleria Conference Center
Tuesday, October 19, 1999

Biomedical Science Careers Student Conference
For students from high school to post-doctoral level
Boston Park Plaza Hotel
Saturday, March 4, 2000: Dinner with keynote speaker
Sunday, March 5, 2000: 7:30am – 5:00pm
Keynote Speakers – Workshops – Meetings with Advisors – Resource Room

Important Message from BSCP

If you are interested in a summer internship, please send your resume with a cover letter describing exactly the type of position you are seeking to:

BSCP, c/o Minority Faculty Development Program
Harvard Medical School
164 Longwood Avenue, Second Floor
Boston, MA 02115-5818

THIRD WAVE Scholarship Programs for Young Women

Third Wave Foundation’s Scholarship Program is available to all full-time or part-time students aged 30 and under who are enrolled in, or have been accepted to, an accredited university, college or community college. The primary criterion for funding is financial need. Students should also be involved in the social justice movement, working on issues such as racism, homophobia, sexism, or other institutional injustices. The amount of each scholarship is decided after careful review of the student’s financial aid report. The number of scholarships awarded depends on the amount of each award. Scholarships range in amount from $1,000 to $5,000 each and are awarded in two cycles – fall and spring.

For information and applications, call (212) 338-1898 or e-mail Thirdwave@aol.com.

University of Pennsylvania Veterinary School

The University of Pennsylvania is looking to award full scholarships to two minority students who fit the credentials to enter the veterinary school. For more information contact
Irving W. McConnell, D.V.M.
President
The McConnell Group
3670 Morrison Way
Doylestown, PA 18901
(215) 230-5531 (phone)
(215) 230-9469 (fax)
irvingmcc@aol.com (e-mail) ∗