

BSCP

IN TOUCH WITH

BIOMEDICAL SCIENCE CAREERS PROGRAM

April 2001 Volume 6 Number 2

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newsletter.



John T. Potts Jr., M.D.

An Evening of Hope 2001

The Biomedical Science Careers Program's (BSCP) fourth annual fundraiser, An Evening of Hope, took place on April 24, 2001, at The Boston Park Plaza Hotel. The fundraiser's four major benefactors were Biogen, Inc., Boston Scientific Corporation, Genetics Institute/Wyeth and Genzyme Corporation.

The evening was an occasion to honor students devoted to the study of biomedical sciences, as well as to recognize people who have given of themselves to BSCP over the years.

HOPE scholarships, sponsored by Biogen, Inc., Boston Scientific Corporation, Fleming Family Foundation/MassMEDIC, Genetics Institute/Wyeth, Genzyme Community Foundation, Millennium Pharmaceuticals, Inc., and Pfizer Inc., were awarded to seven academically outstanding minority students. The students, who will each receive \$5,000 (\$2,500 per year for two years), are as follows:

Guilna Alce, whose scholarship is sponsored by Millennium Pharmaceuticals, Inc., is a sophomore at Simmons College majoring in psychobiology.

Gillianne S. DeFoe, whose scholarship is sponsored by Genzyme Community Foundation, is a graduate of Simmons College. DeFoe will enter Boston University School of Medicine in the fall.

Gordon L. Gaul, whose scholarship is sponsored by Boston Scientific Corporation, is a sophomore at Tufts University majoring in biology.

Elizabeth E. Glater, whose scholarship is sponsored by Pfizer Inc., is a candidate for a doctoral degree in neuroscience at Brown

University and a National Science Foundation predoctoral fellow.

Aman M. Milner, whose scholarship is sponsored by The Fleming Family Foundation, Inc., and MassMEDIC, is a student at Cambridge Rindge and Latin High School.

Lina P. Pabon, whose scholarship is sponsored by Genetics Institute/Wyeth, is a first-year medical student at the State University of New York Medical School at Brooklyn.

Sederick C. Rice, whose scholarship is sponsored by Biogen, Inc., is a Ph.D. candidate in the Cell and Molecular Biology Program at the University of Vermont.

Evening of Hope 2001 co-chairs Ellen M. Zane, network president, Partners HealthCare System, Inc., and James C. Mullen, president and chief executive officer, Biogen, Inc., presented awards to distinguished honorees Wayne A. Budd, Esq., executive vice president and general counsel, John Hancock Financial Services, Inc., and John T. Potts Jr., M.D., director of research, Massachusetts General Hospital, for their contributions to mentorship, to the community and to diversity. Honor Roll members cited for their repeat contributions to the organization and the students it serves are: **Kenneth R. Bridges, M.D.**, Brigham and Women's Hospital; **Suzanne R. Culver**, Partners HealthCare System, Inc.; **Doreen Nichols**, Human Resources Consultant; **Kyrsis Rodriguez, Ph.D.**, Roxbury Community College; and **Lois Schiappa**, Biogen, Inc. ♦



Wayne A. Budd, Esq.

The BSCP just launched its updated, interactive website, www.bscp.org, which reflects the Program's mission and will be easier for the extended BSCP community to use than the previous site. Bringing the BSCP website to the state of the art would not have been possible without the most generous support of Genzyme Corporation.

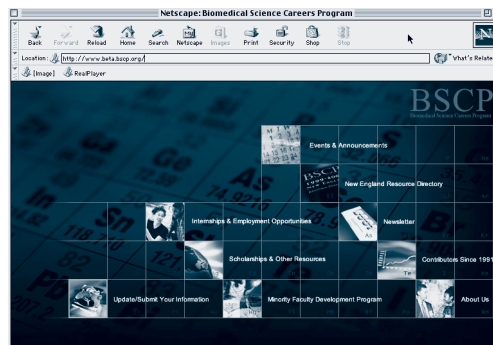
Given the green light by Henri A. Termeer, chairman, chief executive officer and president, and John V. Heffernan, senior vice president, website developers from Genzyme Corporation worked for several months to overhaul BSCP's former site and get the new one up and running. According to Dorothea Eiben, IT manager at Genzyme responsible for the company's Web infrastructure, who coordinated the effort, "Johnny Pellecer is responsible for the site's design. He worked with [BSCP executive director] Lise Kaye to get the mood and feel of the site. Then we put the programming behind it.

"The site really represents the image of what BSCP is — not an easy thing to do," Eiben adds. "We went through many iterations of what it might look like before arriving at the current site." And because

of the technology behind the site, Kaye and her staff can maintain it and update information without having to know anything about the Web.

According to Kaye, one of the most valuable features of the site is its ability to allow BSCP to better track its students. Not only can students update their contact information — mailing address, e-mail address, etc. — they are urged to update their profiles as well, with information regarding their current institution, major, degree expected or employment status. Companies and institutions, too, can contribute information. For example, if somebody at a company anywhere in the world has a job opening or internship that they think would be of interest to BSCP members, that person can submit a description of the opportunity by entering the site's Internship and Employment Opportunities section and clicking on "Submit a New Opportunity." The submission will be sent via e-mail to the BSCP office, which will review the description and decide whether or not to post it to the site.

The user-friendly site also has sections for events and announcements, and scholarships and other resources — both of which allow visitors to submit information; a fully searchable New England Resource



Directory; an archive containing all back issues of this newsletter; a link to the Harvard Medical School Minority Faculty Development Program site; and a list of contributors since 1991, with links to their websites.

With its interactive features and the depth of information included, www.bscp.org should be of tremendous value to the BSCP community. Please visit the site to see what it can offer you. And students, **PLEASE** update your contact information and any items in your student profile that may have changed. ♦

Intellectual Property Internship

For Teran W. Colen, a third-year student at Harvard Medical School, attending last year's Biomedical Science Careers Student Conference opened the doors to a rewarding opportunity that may well influence his career path.

At a session entitled "Alternative Career Paths," Colen met Brenda Manning, Ph.D., senior officer at the Intellectual Property Office (IPO) at Children's Hospital



Teran W. Colen

Boston. The two stayed in touch after the conference, and the more Colen learned about the office's purpose, the more interested he became. Finally, he asked whether he could do a month-long "elective rotation" at the IPO, and Brenda arranged it with IPO director Donald Lombardi.

The Intellectual Property Office evaluates inventions arising from the Hospital's research and clinical programs. If they believe an invention has a chance for commer-

cial success, they work to obtain a patent for that invention. Once patents are filed, the office markets the technology to the biomedical industry — primarily pharmaceutical and biotechnology, software, and medical device companies.

Lombardi started the IPO in 1991. By May 1998 the office had grown to five people. Today there are 13 full-time staff members, and the office relies heavily on interns like Colen, most of whom spend longer stints there. The internship program combines science and medicine with business and law.

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Student Profiles

Gordon L. Gaul

Gordon L. Gaul, a sophomore at Tufts University, is a busy guy. A biology major with a minor in Japanese, Gaul carries a full course load, including two lab courses, and works part-time in the university's psychology laboratory, taking care of the resident mice and spider monkeys.

A Boston native, Gaul was introduced to biomedical laboratories through Project Success, a summer internship program for students of high academic standing with strong interest in science, during the summers after his junior and senior years in high school. His first assignment was in a surgical lab at Brigham and Women's Hospital (BWH). The following summer he worked in a different lab at BWH, where researchers were trying to extract polypeptide from certain bacteria and synthesize it to explore the possibilities of antibody resistance.

Through BSCP, during his freshman year at Tufts, Gaul heard of a summer internship at Genzyme Transgenics Corporation, a division of Genzyme Corporation. During the summer between his freshman and sophomore years, Gaul worked at Genzyme Transgenics' Framingham, Massachusetts facility, under Paul Bourdon, on an angiogenesis project aiming to create tumor suppressants using transgenic animals (animals that have DNA from more than one species). "I was responsible for conducting DNA extractions and PCR [Polymerase Chain Reaction] as part of the tumor therapy development research," he says. "The experience at Genzyme was invaluable. [They] showed me a lot of things that have been helpful in my studies," he adds. "I'm taking two lab courses this year, and we're using the same processes we used at Genzyme. I'm learning that lots of labs use the same techniques to get different results. They're all looking for different things."

When he graduates from college, Gaul plans to attend graduate school in molecular biology and hopes to continue with biomedical research. "I am more interested in exploration than application," he says. "I want to spend my time putting together the pieces of the puzzle in medical science, rather than in clinical practice."

Gaul also is interested in working on health policy, possibly in Japan. "I chose Japanese as my minor because I'm interested in the language and the culture, and the differences that exist between our cultures." Having grown up in Boston, and attending college very close to his hometown, Gaul is ready to expand his horizons, and says he's hoping to go to Japan, either for graduate school or to work.

Laura Martin

Most high school seniors would love to be in Laura Martin's position right now. The senior at Mt. Alvernia High School in Newton has been accepted to several colleges, including her top choices.

But she thinks she may defer admission to do a year of community service through City Year.

Martin, who lives in the Jamaica Plain section of Boston, has been involved with BSCP since 1999, attending both the March 2000 Biomedical Science Careers Student Conference and the BSCP Skills Workshops for High School Students. She also participated in Project Success during the summers of 1999 and 2000. "When I first did Project Success, it was just something to do in the summer," Martin admits. "My older brother had done it, so I thought I would. It's really opened my eyes."

Before participating in Project Success, Martin says she wasn't particularly interested in a career in science or medicine. But after Project Success she changed her tune, and now she thinks she might want to go to medical school. (Martin's father is an anesthesiologist at Brigham and Women's Hospital.)

But before all that, Martin feels it's time for her to give back to the community where she was raised. ♦

CALENDAR

Upcoming Events

The New England Board of Higher Education (NEBHE) will hold its annual Science Network Meeting for Underrepresented Minority Students at the high school, 2-year, 4-year college and graduate level on Saturday, October 13, 2001, at the Stratton Center of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. The conference is from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. For more information call (617) 357-9620 or visit: www.nebhe.org.

Biomedical Science Careers Student Conference

For students from high school to postdoctoral level
The Boston Park Plaza Hotel
Friday, March 1, and
Saturday, March 2, 2002

TEST DATES

MCAT

For online registration, visit:
www.aamc.org/mcat

MCAT TEST DATE	REGISTRATION DEADLINE:
08/18/01	07/13/01
04/20/02	TBD
08/17/02	TBD

SAT

To register, call 1-800-SAT-SCOR
or visit: www.collegeboard.com

SAT TEST DATE	REGISTRATION DEADLINE:
05/05/01	03/29/01
06/02/01	04/27/01
10/13/01	09/11/01
11/03/01	09/28/01
12/01/01	10/26/01
01/26/02	12/21/01
03/16/02	02/08/02
05/04/02	03/29/02
06/01/02	04/27/02

John Hancock Increases Commitment to Boston Schools

John Hancock Financial Services, Inc., unveiled its "Operation Math Corps" initiative in March. The largest business-partner volunteer math-tutoring program in Boston's history, Operation Math Corps involves 100 Hancock employees who will volunteer their time to help tutor students in the Boston Public Schools. Each volunteer will work one-on-one for an hour every week with fourth graders in six of the city's elementary schools.

Hancock developed Operation Math Corps in response to the

For more information on John Hancock's Outreach Programs, please visit:
www.jhancock.com.

Public School Department's call to action to increase math learning. According to Wayne A. Budd, executive vice president and general counsel at Hancock (and a distinguished honoree at BSCP's 2001 Evening of Hope), this program is another step in the organization's continuing partnership with the Boston Public Schools. "Hancock has a long-standing history of involvement with Boston Public Schools, through programs like the Financial Wizards initiative, and is extremely proud of this new program and our employee volunteers," Budd said.

Other Hancock outreach programs include:

- **Adopt-a-Class** — This program partners senior executives with inner-city students in the Boston Public School System.

The executives travel to several schools, three times per year, to read and interact with students.

- **HEART** — The Hancock Endowment for Academics, Recreation and Teaching is a \$1 million permanent endowment from John Hancock used to fund more than 165 classroom projects in Boston's schools. The partnership is currently focused on systemic reform for whole school change.
- **INROADS** — John Hancock is a corporate sponsor of this national organization, which recruits talented Native American, Latino, Asian American and African American high school and college students to compete for career-related internships. ♦

Intellectual Property Internship

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"Interns are fun to have around," says Lombardi, adding that "they really help us get our work done, and they bring a fresh perspective to what we're doing." Adds Manning, "As our office grew, our workload exceeded our resources. Because we had no funding to hire more people, we thought one of the best things we could do was open it up to interns." Over the years the Office has had interns ranging from law school graduates to postdoctoral students who wanted to continue working in science but also wanted to move toward business. Interestingly, Colen was the first medical student. And he brought a lot of value.

"We have five Ph.D.s on staff, mostly in biochemistry or molecular biology," Manning explains. "I hadn't really thought about bringing in someone with a medical background, but once Teran was here we realized how much we really needed someone like him."

Adds Lombardi, "In this office, people have to understand the science and the value — what you can do with it. We like to have a mix of backgrounds here. Medical students understand the end use of the inventions we deal with, whether they're devices or pharmaceuticals. We're hoping to get more medical students [as interns]."

IPO offers very structured programs that expose interns to all aspects of its operation. During the month he spent there this past winter, Colen conducted patentability and marketability analyses on inventions and presented his findings to the group; wrote up a case study on a platelet growth factor being developed by Genetics Institute based on technology licensed from

Children's Hospital; and was involved in a project analyzing the viability of creating a program around regenerative medicine (involving tissue engineering and stem-cell therapy). He also attended meetings with some of the business people funding the inventions. "It's rare for someone starting out in their career to have that kind of experience," Manning notes.

"This business of managing business and technology is a growing field," Lombardi says. "It is intrinsic to the biotechnology, pharmaceutical and medical device industries. People who become proficient in this area can have extremely successful careers in industry, academia, venture capital, banking or government." ♦

IPO offers paid internships, usually of three months or longer, throughout the year. The office aims to have at least two interns working there at all times. If you are interested in applying for a position, contact Brenda Manning at (617) 355-8899 or e-mail her at brenda.manning@tch.harvard.edu.