



FACT SHEET

Minority Faculty Development Program

Educational Outreach Programs

The Harvard Medical School is committed to assembling a faculty and student body that mirrors the diversity of the nation. This requires the nurturing and development of students from underrepresented groups and disadvantaged backgrounds who are prepared to pursue biomedical science careers. Educational Outreach Programs, part of the Minority Faculty Development Program in the Office for Diversity Inclusion and Community Partnership at Harvard Medical School, has four primary objectives:

- to increase science literacy and interest in science careers of Boston Cambridge middle and high school students, particularly students from underrepresented groups and females;
- to sponsor professional development activities for Boston middle and high school science teachers to facilitate the creation of a professional learning community; and
- to develop case-based curriculum materials for Boston and Cambridge school using real life problems and hands-on activities, and have science content integrated across disciplines.
- to integrate 21st century tools and resources into the AP Biology laboratory

HMS, through the direction of the Minority Faculty Development Program, has developed many programs with these objectives in mind.

MIDDLE SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Reflection in Action: Building Healthy Communities™ (RIA)

For Boston and Cambridge students in 6th, 7th and 8th grade

First conceived in 2003, Reflection in Action (RIA) is a program for Boston and Cambridge middle school students. RIA advocates for improvements in individual and community health and translates these improvements into engagement in civic action. In every aspect of the program, students are exposed to urban health issues and are encouraged to choose a healthy lifestyle.

Reflection in Action provides an open forum and multiple opportunities for students to connect current health issues with their increasing scientific knowledge, to advocate for their communities, and to consider careers in health care, medicine, science and entrepreneurship. Young people discover that their voices, creative expressions and activism can have a positive impact on our individual and collective health.

SAMPLING OF LEARNING

"Every minute, one truck of plastic is dumped in the ocean."

"Everyone deals with something that you don't."

"The medical consequences when you use everyday products."

"People in government do a lot of things."

"There were many issues that I didn't think were important to health."

Students, Boston Public Schools

HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAMS

AP Biology Hinton Scholars Program

For 10th, 11th and 12th grade students and their teachers from select Boston Public Schools

The Advanced Placement (AP) Biology Hinton Scholars Program is an after-school enrichment program designed to enhance students' understanding of AP Biology concepts, provide laboratory exposure, and increase knowledge about careers in science throughout the academic year. Program components include but are not limited to the following: hands-on AP Bio-related science labs, test preparation for AP Biology exam, small group tutoring led by Harvard medical and graduate students, enhancement of students' speaking and writing skills, site visits related to AP Biology curriculum, and access to Harvard lectures, conferences, researchers, and faculty, and career panel discussions in the biomedical sciences.

"The students loved it! This is the type of experience that helps motivate our students and encourage them to pursue jobs in the medical field."

Teacher, Boston Public School

Bridge to AP Biology

For rising Boston 11th and 12th grad students from the Boston Public Schools

A summer enrichment pre-Advanced Placement (AP) Biology program for select Boston Public School teachers of AP Biology and their students held at Harvard Medical School is a result of the collaboration between the Harvard Medical School Office for Diversity Inclusion and Community Partnership and the Boston Public Schools. Students are exposed to AP-Biology concepts taught by their teachers, hands-on laboratory activities and academic fieldtrips before commencing their AP Biology high school courses in the fall.

"Bridge showed me the level of the AP work for the upcoming year including labs, reports, homework, class work and valuable note-taking skills."

Student, Boston Public School

Project Success: Opening the Door to Biomedical Careers

For Boston and Cambridge high school students in the summer following 11th or 12th grade

Project Success places high school students, particularly from underrepresented groups and disadvantaged backgrounds, at Harvard research sites. They complete an 8-week, hands-on, paid, mentored summer research project under the supervision of Harvard faculty, attend a science and career development seminar series, and through oral presentations and preparation of research reports, enhance their speaking and writing skills. Students must be at least 16 years old and maintain a B- GPA to participate.

"Project Success really has opened up so many opportunities and connections in the medical and public health arenas for me. I discovered my passion for public health and (for) addressing racial/ethnic health disparities through my experiences working with renowned experts in the field; and I am now a doctoral candidate and an instructor at the Harvard School of Public Health. I also forged some long-lasting friendships with fellow Project Success peers. Thank you to Dean Joan Reede and everyone at the HMS Office for Diversity Inclusion and Community Partnership for helping shape generations of successful professionals!"

Project Success Alumnus

COLLEGE PROGRAMS

New England Science Symposium (NESS)

For college, graduate, and undergraduate students

The New England Science Symposium (NESS), established in 2002, promotes careers in biomedical sciences. NESS provides a forum for postdoctoral fellows; medical, dental and graduate students; post-baccalaureates; college and community college students (particularly for African-American, Hispanic/Latino and Native American/Alaska Native individuals) to share their biomedical and health-related research activities through oral or poster presentations, to engage in discussions related to career development in the sciences, to exchange ideas and to expand their professional networks.

"I wanted to thank you for the opportunity to present my research this past Friday at the New England Science Symposium. The experience was incredible, and I really appreciated just how much work you and your staff put into assembling this group of undergraduate, graduate and post graduate researchers. Everything from the oral presentations to the research posters and the discussion panels made this event something that will help inspire the next generation of great scientific minds. Thanks to the Symposium, I am taking a greater interest in continuing with scientific inquiry into my future. The various presenters showed just how much more there is to discover in the fields of science and medicine, and I think the event has energized many of us into thinking more about the roles we can play in better understanding the world around us.

College Student

Project Success: Opening the Door to Biomedical Careers/College

For alumni of the Project Success high school program

College applicants must have participated in Project Success while in high school to be eligible to apply. Please refer to the High School section of the brochure for a full description of the program.

PROGRAMS FOR TEACHERS

AP Biology Callbacks

Designed to meet the specific needs of Boston AP Biology teachers yet is open to all science teachers serving the metropolitan area. Participants engage in quarterly Advanced Placement (AP) Biology Professional development workshops, seminars, best teaching practices, lectures and laboratory exercises facilitated by HMS faculty, staff and students, all of which are relevant to the AP Biology course curriculum.

"I really appreciate the 'real life' connection. It stimulates a very vibrant discussion."

Teacher, Boston Public Schools

Harvard Medical School

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