



THE CMBB QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

<http://minorityopportunities.nci.nih.gov>

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CMBB STAFF:

Sanya Springfield, Ph.D., Chief
H. Nelson Aguila, D.V.M., Program Director
Ms. Belinda Locke, Program Director
Peter Ogunbiyi, D.V.M., Ph.D., Program Director
Ms. Bobby Rosenfeld, Senior Program Analyst
Ms. LaShell Gaskins, Program Specialist

Special Thanks: Dr. Springfield would like to thank all those who sent congratulatory remarks regarding her recent NIH Director's Award.

The staff of the CMBB hopes that you all had an enjoyable summer and have returned to work refreshed and invigorated. We are back in full swing and anxious to hear from you with news of your accomplishments, moves, publications, etc. Our publication schedule is January, April, July and October. E-mail your news to me at rr63v@nih.gov.

As you can see, we are still mailing the newsletter; not e-mailing it. The reason is all the graphics - which we don't want to lose and which many servers cannot handle. Because our distribution list has grown to an unbelievable number, it has become not only very expensive, but very time consuming to send the newsletter by regular mail. So, we've decided to use the latest in technology (the world wide web) to get our newsletter to you. What we plan to do is e-mail you to let you know when the latest issue has been added to our website so you can log on at your leisure to read it. If you have not yet sent us your Personal Data Sheet or your e-mail address, please do so in order for us to contact you.

Secretary Thompson leads HHS in closing the health gap

HHS Secretary Tommy G. Thompson leads HHS's continued progress in the Department-wide focus on minority health improvement. The minority health improvement efforts include reaching a larger proportion of those at risk and educating them, providing more treatment possibilities, and also providing and pointing to healthier alternatives and

options. Minority health inequalities remain startlingly clear in some areas, however strong efforts are being made to attempt to change this.

"African-Americans suffer disproportionately from diabetes, heart disease and other medical problems. As a nation, we need to work aggressively to close this gap," Secretary Thompson said. "Such large health disparities should not, and do not need to exist."

As it stands, African American men continue to be 26% more likely than white males and twice as likely as Hispanic males to die of heart disease, with 40% of African American heart disease deaths occurring before age 65. Efforts to change this, however, include the CDC's Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health (REACH) community-driven project, and the Closing the Health Gap campaign.

In 2002, the Department of Health and Human Services will spend \$5.7 billion on minority health programs. This is \$261 million more than in 2001, and includes \$158 million in funds for the newly created NIH National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities. The Office of Minority Health continues the Department's Initiative to Eliminate Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Health. The initiative was first implemented in 1998 to focus on 6 key areas that disproportionately impact minority communities: infant mortality, cancer screening and management, cardiovascular disease, diabetes, HIV/AIDS and immunization.

As part of the Initiative to Eliminate Racial and Ethnic

Disparities in Health, HHS has teamed up with ABC Radio in the Closing the Gap campaign. The Closing the Gap campaign uses ABC Radio's Urban Advantage Network to inform and educate the African American community on the health gap and to point to healthier lifestyle possibilities. The campaign is similar to the VERB: It's What You Do campaign, in that HHS is teaming up with outside media to reach a wider audience and inform them of risks and promote healthier alternatives.

"There is so much we can and need to do to help promote better health in America," said Secretary Thompson. "By working together at all levels of government and bringing in cultural and social groups we can better meet the health needs of the American people."

MOVEMENT TO DECLARE "NATIONAL MINORITY HEALTH MONTH" GETS BOOST DURING CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS LEGISLATIVE WEEK - Amgen Suits Up for Countdown to April 2003 Launch

Legislation introduced by Rep. Donna Christensen (D-US VI) and J.C. Watts (R-OK) received a big boost this week when Amgen, the world's largest pharmaceutical and biotechnology company, signed on to help National Minority Health Month, Inc. reach its target goal of raising \$50,000 per month to shore up minority health public awareness and education efforts.

Watts and Christensen welcomed the support and said that the minority community in the United States of America remains the silent sufferer not only due to critical illnesses, but because effective health care delivery systems, preventive health education efforts, affordable drugs and robust research and clinical trials are all lacking when compared to the majority community.

Christensen said, "Declaring a *"National Minority Health Month"* is critically important because it will help focus attention on the grave injustice in minority health care that exists and the growing costs that are associated with this neglect."

House Republican Chairman J.C. Watts, Jr. (R-OK), said, "The United States has some of the best doctors and nurses in the world. But even with these assets, there is a significant discrepancy in the health of ethnic minorities compared to the rest of our American population. We need to address this crisis with the resources and attention it deserves. Legislation that I sponsored along with Delegate Donna Christensen raises the level of awareness to the disparity of health care concerning members of minority communities. It calls for a dedicated month of minority health care recognition and encourages better use of data and statistics in order to help eliminate health disparities. I am pleased to say this legislation transcended party lines and passed the House of Representatives."

Gary Puckrein, President of Minority Health Communications Inc., and founder of National Minority Health Month, indicated that this public awareness campaign supports the goals of the federal Department of Health and Human Services' "Healthy People 2010" and has amassed an unprecedented database of health statistics on African-Americans and other minority communities throughout the United States. Accordingly, he said, "The outreach efforts of National Minority Health Month will focus on: diabetes, heart disease, cancer, kidney disease, infant mortality, HIV/AIDS, stroke, homicide, women's health, immunizations, substance abuse, mental health, organ/tissue donation, family care giving and suicide.

Marilyn Gaston, M.D., Chief Medical Officer for National Minority Health Month, said, "If you look at renal (kidney) disease alone, one out of every three instances occurs in the African-American community. This is far too prevalent. Does this happen in part to lifestyle issues? Yes, but issues such as access to care, healthy lifestyles, public education, and focused research factor in as well. The incidence of cancer is overwhelming. Environmental justice issues are another concern (brown fields, etc.) all come into play as well."

Peter B. Teeley, Senior Vice President of Government Relations at Amgen, on hand to present a check in the amount of \$58,000, said, "While Amgen has always had an interest in prevention and public education, it is not one of our core strengths. We will leave those efforts to National Minority Health Month. We have invested, over many years, billions of dollars in research and development to improve the quality of life of those who suffer symptoms from diseases, such as cancer, kidney disease and other illnesses. Support for the declaration of National Minority Health Month, and other efforts, is the least we can do to make an impact on the prevention side of chronic illness, and we are in for the long haul."

Amgen is a global biotechnology company that discovers, develops, manufactures and markets important human therapeutics based on advances in cellular and molecular biology. The company and *National Minority Health Month* have named the countdown campaign "**Champions for Equity in Health Care**" and it has memorialized its participation by funding a lapel pin that will be given to each Caucus participant as they receive health screenings.

"What we do know is that the most powerful and effective health messages are communicated person to person and from family and friends," Teeley said. "We hope Caucus Week participants will take messages back to their respective communities that encourage friends and family to get health screenings,

join the **Champions for Equity in Health Care Campaign** and become an active participant in their community.”

Representatives Christensen and J.C. Watts (R-OK) introduced H. Con. Res. 78 with Representatives Sanford Bishop (D-GA), James E. Clyburn (D-SC), Danny K. Davis (D-IL), Sheila Jackson Lee (D-TX), Carrie Meek (D-FL), Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC), Donald Payne (D-NJ), and Ed Towns (D-NY) as original cosponsors.

Native American Cancer Research Partnership

The University of Arizona in Tucson is providing a house to be used for the recently awarded partnership grants (U54) between Northern Arizona University (NAU) and the Arizona Cancer Center (AZCC) (Co-Principal Investigators are **Roger Van Andel** and **Louise Canfield**). The sign in the front of this house will read as follows and will include each partner's logo:
NATIVE AMERICAN CANCER RESEARCH PARTNERSHIP
ARIZONA CANCER CENTER (LOGO)/ NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIVERSITY (LOGO) / NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE (LOGO)

CONGRATULATIONS

Dr. Miguel Villalona, Ohio State University, on his promotion to Associate Professor with tenure and on his receiving his R21 grant.

Dr. Jasjit Ahluwalia and Dr. Kolawole Okuyemi, University of Kansas School of Medicine, on having their paper “Sustained-Release Bupropion for Smoking Cessation in African Americans - A Randomized Controlled Trial” published in the July issue of JAMA.

Dr. Cecilia Merched (formerly Whitacre) on her move to Barry University where she is an Associate Professor of Biochemistry for graduate students. Also on having a manuscript published in Cancer Letters and the submission of two additional manuscripts.

Dr. Rena Pasick on her appointment as Associate Director for Education and Outreach and the UCSF Comprehensive Cancer Center, beginning November 1, 2002.

Dr. Sarki Abdulkadir, one of our few K08 grantees, who not only obtained his first R01 grant but has also been tapped to be a permanent member of the Pathology-B Study Section.

Dr. Delores Grant, an assistant professor in the Biology Department and member of the career development component of North Carolina Center University's Julius L. Chambers Biomedical/Biotechnology Research Institute and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill's Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center U56

grant, was recently awarded an MBRS grant entitled “Regulation of a Prostate Specific Gene: UGT 2B17.”

FY 2003 MI/CCP APPLICATIONS ARE IN

The CMBB has reached the next round of MI/CCP applications. The review is scheduled to take place in early December. A new Chair has been named; **Dr. Miguel Berrios** of SUNY. Dr. Berrios has served as a reviewer since the beginning and has also given valuable suggestions and played a significant role at the MI/CCP Technical Assistance Workshop.

NEWS FROM THE AACR

Deadlines for funding opportunities:

AACR-Gertrude B. Elion Cancer Research Award
Application Deadline: October 15, 2002
<http://services.aacr.org/elion.asp>

AACR Career Development Awards
Application Deadline: October 15, 2002
<http://services.aacr.org/cda.asp>

AACR Upcoming Conferences:

Frontiers in Cancer Prevention Research
October 14-18, 2002
Sheraton Boston Hotel, Boston, MA

Proteases, Extracellular Matrix, and Cancer
October 9-13, 2002
The Westin Resort, Hilton Head Island, SC

Ubiquitination in Normal and Cancer Cells
October 30-November 3, 2002
The Westin Bayshore Resort and Marina
Vancouver, BC, Canada

The Role of Telomeres and Telomerase in Cancer
December 7-11, 2002
Hyatt Regency, San Francisco, CA

Call for Nominations for the AACR-MICR Council

AACR is seeking nominations for positions of the Minorities in Cancer Research (MICR) Council. The AACR-MICR Council is committed to preventing and curing cancer while meeting the professional needs and advancing the careers of minority scientists. Three members will be elected to the Council for a 3-year term (2002-2005). Eligible candidates must be AACR-MICR active, emeritus, or honorary members in good standing.

A nomination must include the following:

- 3 the nominees curriculum vitae and bibliography
- 3 a 250 word statement outlining the nominee's intended goals for the MICR Council
- 3 a picture (in jpg. format to constituencies@aacr.org)

One member will be elected to the Council (ex officio) for a 1-year term (2002-2003).

Only Associate Members in good standing are eligible. A nomination must include all of the above plus the following:

- 3 at least one letter of recommendation in support of the candidate's election to the Council.

All AACR members are invited to join MICR and take part in its programs and activities. Interested individuals may visit the AACR website at <http://www.aacr.org> to download the AACR-MICR membership Application Form. Send nomination materials to:

AACR-Minorities in Cancer Research
AACR
Public Ledger Building, Suite 826
150 S. Independence Mall West
Philadelphia, PA 19106-3404

UPCOMING MEETINGS OF INTEREST

3 [National Conference on Tobacco and Health Disparities: Forging the Research Agenda to Reduce Tobacco-Related Health.](#) This meeting is sponsored by NCI, Center for Disease Control and Prevention, the American Legacy Foundation, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, The American Cancer Society, and the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids. The meeting will be held December 11-13, 2002 in Tampa,

Florida at the Westin Innsbrook Resort.

3 [Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students](#) will take place November 13-16, 2002 at the Hyatt Regency in New Orleans, Louisiana. Information can be obtained at <http://www.abrcms.org>.

USE OF NON-COMPETING GRANT PROGRESS REPORT (PHS 3590) FACE PAGES

From the NIH Guide - January 7, 2002
NOT-OD-02-022

"The computer-generated Non-Competing Grant Progress Report (PHS 2590) face pages currently being mailed to grantees are in the 4/98 format. Please be advised that your institution may use these computer-generated face pages. The 5/2001 PHS 2590 is to be used for the remaining sections of the progress report.

Also, as announced in the NIH Guide REVISED PHS 398 and PHS 2590 NOW AVAILABLE (July 10, 2001), NIH will continue to provide the pre-printed PHS 2590 for awards with start dates through September 2002. After September 2002, as part of our transition to electronic forms and submission, the NIH will discontinue mailing the pre-preprinted PHS 2590 Face Page. Notification of a progress report due date will become electronic."

For Fellowship grants (F31) use PHS Form 416-19 for Non-Competing Progress Reports.

A FEW REMINDERS

3 Supplement progress reports are to be included with and clearly identified in the non-competing grant progress report of the parent grant. A Non-Competing Continuation for Minority Supplements Form is sent with each letter notifying the PI that the supplement has been recommended for approval. Please use that form.

3 Please make sure that we have an updated Personal Data Sheet. If you don't have a Personal Data Sheet Form, or if you need another one to provide updated information, let us know and we'll get one to you. That is the only way we can contact you.

3 If you are in your last year of funding you should be preparing for your next funding opportunity. If you have any questions about what to do next, call us.

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Minority/Black Female Scholars Wanted

The Selected Professions Fellowship Program is accepting applications for the 2002-2003 academic

year. These various grants/fellowships range from \$2,000-\$50,000 and provide direct financial assistance to black female scholars pursuing professional degrees in architecture, business administration, computer science, engineering, math/statistics, law, and medicine. Applicants must be US citizens or permanent residents. Most candidates must be entering their final year of a graduate or first-professional degree in an eligible discipline in the 2002-2003 academic year. To apply or find out more about this go to <http://www.aauw.org/> and click on fellowships and grants. Deadlines vary for different awards.

Faculty/Researcher Positions

The Department of Biotechnology at Delaware State University invites applications for tenure-track Faculty/Researcher positions at all levels. Applicants must have a Ph.D. degree, be able to develop an independent externally funded research program, and be committed to teach courses designed for "hands-on" training of undergraduate students majoring in this discipline. Additional experience with bioinformatics applications; Wisconsin Package/SeqWeb, Vector NTI, DNASTar is suggested. Review of applications will begin immediately and will continue until positions are filled. No phone calls. Send curriculum vitae, a description of current research activities, teaching experience, and a list of three references to:

Dr. Teresa L. Singleton, Chairperson
Department of Biotechnology
Delaware State University
1200 N. Dupont Highway
Dover, Delaware 19901

Senior Epidemiologist

The Meharry Medical College/Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center Partnership (MMC/VICC Partnership) seeks a Senior Epidemiologist at the Associate or Full Professor level to join a dynamic group of researchers engaged in several large collaborative epidemiology research projects.

The successful candidate will have a primary faculty appointment at MMC and be eligible for a joint appointment with the Vanderbilt University School of Medicine. Qualifications include a doctoral degree in epidemiology or other closely related field and a strong record of research productivity in cancer epidemiology, as evidenced by extramural funding and peer-reviewed publications. The successful candidate will be expected to mentor newer investigators and assume a leadership role within the Partnership. Salary and rank are commensurate with experience.

Provide a letter of interest, C.V., and three letters of reference to:

Sr. Epidemiologist Search Committee
c/o Hyacinth R.C. Mason, Ph.D., MPH
Department of General Internal Medicine
Vanderbilt University Medical Center
Suite 6000 Medical Center East
Nashville, TN 37232
e-mail: hyacinth.mason@mcm.vanderbilt.edu

Post Doctoral and Research Scientist Positions

North Carolina Central University's Julius L. Chambers Biomedical/Biotechnology Research Institute has postdoctoral and research scientist positions available in cancer molecular biology/epidemiology. These positions are funded by an NCI U56 MI/CCP Grant. Interested applicants are encouraged to apply by sending a letter of research interest, current CV, and a list of three professional references to:

Dr. Ken Harewood
North Carolina Central University
JLC-BBRI
1801 Fayetteville Street
Durham, NC 27077
<http://www.nccu.edu/bbri>

A RESOURCE THAT YOU MAY FIND INTERESTING

The Minority Scientists Network

<http://nextwave.sciencemag.org/cgi/content/full/2002/02/15/5>.

CMBB OPPORTUNITIES FOR MINORITIES IN CANCER RESEARCH

For more information, log on to our website:
<http://minorityopportunities.nci.nih.gov>

Research Project Grant Supplements

PA-01-079 - Research Supplements for Underrepresented Minorities

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-01-079.html>)

PA-01-079 - Research Supplements for Underrepresented Minorities

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-01-079.html>)

PA-01-080 - Research Supplements for Individuals with Disabilities

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-01-080.html>)

PA-01-081 - Supplements to Promote Reentry into Biomedical and Behavioral Research Careers

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-01-081.html>)

CURE Supplements

NCI Cancer Center (P30) Supplements for High

School and Undergraduate Student Research Experiences

[03-009.html](#))

Minority Supplements to the NCI Cancer Education and Career Development Program (R25T)

CA-03-008 - Cooperative Planning Grant for Comprehensive Minority Institution/ Cancer Center Partnership (U56)
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-CA-03-008.html>)

Minority Supplements to Institutional Clinical Oncology Research Development Awards (K12)

Supplements to Cancer Center Support Grants for Minority Physicians Performing Patient Oriented Research (P30)

National Research Service Awards

PA-00-069 - NIH Predoctoral Fellowship Awards for Minority Students (F31)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-00-069.html>)

PA-00-068 - NIH Predoctoral Fellowship Awards for Students with Disabilities (F31)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-00-068.html>)

Minority Supplement to the NCI-Supported National Research Service Award Institutional Research Training Grant (T32)

Career Development Awards

PAR-01-016 - NCI Mentored Career Development Award for Underrepresented Minorities (K01)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-01-016.html>)

PA-00-019 - Mentored Research Scientist Development Award (K01)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-00-019.html>)

PA-01-059 - NCI Transition Career Development Award for Underrepresented Minorities (K22)

PAR-00-040 - Minorities in Clinical Oncology (K08)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-00-040.html>)

PAR-00-042 - Mentored Patient-Oriented Research for Underrepresented Minorities (K23)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-00-042.html>)

Minority Institution/Cancer Center Program

CA-03-010-Comprehensive Minority Institution/Cancer Center Partnership (U54)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-CA-03-010.html>)

CA-03-009 - Planning Grant for Minority Institution/Cancer Center Collaboration (P20)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-CA-03-009.html>)