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News Release

CPDR Receives Prostate Cancer Research Summer Internship Grant From DoD-PCRP

BETHESDA, Md. — The Prostate Cancer Research Program (PCRP) Collaborative Undergraduate Historically Black College And University Student Summer Training Program was awarded by the Department of Defense, United States Army Medical Research and Materiel Command (USAMRMC) to the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences' (USU) Center for Prostate Disease Research (CPDR) and the University of the District of Columbia (UDC) collaborative team.

A successful collaborative effort between Dr. Shiv Srivastava, Department of Surgery, USU/CPDR and Dr. Deepak Kumar, UDC, provides a great opportunity for talented students to take part in the new Prostate Cancer Training Program that is conducted during their summer break. Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) have a diverse student body with a majority of students classified as minorities. Health Disparities such as the higher incidence of prostate disease among African American men that have been the focus of the CPDR research team are increasingly being addressed in various diseases including prostate cancer. So what better way to increase awareness of such trends and move towards a cure than to:

1. Recruit and encourage highly qualified undergraduate trainees by providing them with a stimulating and intellectual environment that promotes state-of -the art training and education in prostate cancer research.
2. Motivate young researchers, who may contribute to prostate cancer research centers at HBCUs
3. Ensure that the new generation of biomedical scientists is properly trained to continue the fight against prostate cancer.

At the Uniformed Services University's Center for Prostate Disease Research (CPDR), the four selected summer students from UDC are paired with one of the faculty members of USU, and focus on specific research projects in basic science and database research. There are goals and objectives for both mentors and students. Students are actively involved in the program through progressive research, regular lab meetings, seminars and personal discussions with faculty members, staff and fellow students. Research findings are presented by the students, at the end of the summer experience aiming scientific publications. The National Conference Award provides a unique opportunity for gifted students in a leading institution of the prostate cancer field.

Learning to Care for Those in Harm's Way

Located on the grounds of Bethesda's National Naval Medical Center and across from the National Institutes of Health, USU is the nation's federal school of medicine and graduate school of nursing. The university educates health care professionals dedicated to career service in the Department of Defense and the U.S. Public Health Service. Students are active-duty uniformed officers in the Army, Navy, Air Force and Public Health Service, who are being educated to deal with wartime casualties, national disasters, emerging infectious diseases, and other public health emergencies. Of the university's more than 4,000 physician alumni, the vast majority serve on active duty and are supporting operations in Iraq, Afghanistan, and elsewhere, offering their leadership and expertise.

For more information, contact the Office of External Affairs at 301-295-1219.

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