

## **Research Alliance in Math and Science**

<http://www.csm.ornl.gov/Internships/RAMS.html>

Al Geist, Computer Science and Mathematics Division  
Debbie McCoy, Computing and Computational Sciences Directorate  
Oak Ridge National Laboratory

### **Summary**

The Research Alliance in Math and Science (RAMS) program is carried out through the Computing and Computational Sciences Directorate at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) for the U. S. Department of Energy's Office of Advanced Scientific Computing Research. The RAMS program continues to provide unique, hands-on educational experience through innovative approaches to underrepresented students majoring in mathematics, computer science, engineering technology, and the computational sciences.

### **ORNL RAMS student speaks at the 2007 National Historically Black Colleges and Universities Week Conference White House Initiative on HBCU's in Washington, D.C.**

Jackson State University senior Lionel Gerald Lovett had the opportunity recently to share his experience with Oak Ridge National Laboratory's Research Alliance for Math and Science (RAMS) and explain how the program has opened doors for him.

Lovett, who will graduate from the Mississippi university in December, was a panelist at the 2007 National Historically Black Colleges and Universities Week Conference in Washington, D.C. The conference entitled "HBCUs: Fulfilling the Covenant in Our Nation's Higher Education Community" was held September 9-12, at the Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill. (For more information see: <http://hbcuweek.ed.gov/>)

Lovett was a panelist during a September 11 session entitled "Advancing the Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) Education and Research Enterprise." That session focused on the Department of Energy's efforts to use public and private partnerships to increase the number of faculty and student participants in STEM programs.

"I talked about the research I performed and how RAMS has opened new doors for me," Lovett explained, noting that his 2 years in the RAMS program have led to conference publications, an internship at Lockheed Martin Corporation, and broader exposure to varied cultures and people. He said the program is also leading to graduate school once he finishes his bachelor's degree.

"Because of the RAMS program, I'll be going after my master's and Ph.D. in electrical engineering," he said.

As a RAMS student, Lovett has worked with George Ostrouchov of ORNL's Computer Science and Mathematics Division. During that time he worked on a new

dimension-reduction algorithm, a data analysis tool that promises substantial improvements over existing tools.



*Lionel Gerald Lovett explains the research he performed at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory to Dr. Kalyan Perumalla during a poster session of the RAMS program.*

Visiting summer faculty member Dr. Houssain Kettani was another speaker in the session. Professor Kettani, who is also from Jackson State, has served as an overall mentor to summer interns at ORNL for two consecutive years. Having faculty and students engaged in research together is the best approach to lasting relationships which keep students in the queue for both the RAMS program and ORNL employment opportunities in general.

Additional information on the RAMS program, student projects, and photographs from tours and events by years can be accessed at:

<http://www.csm.ornl.gov/Internships/RAMS/>.

**For further information on this subject contact:**

Mr. George Seweryniak, Program Manager  
Office of Advanced Scientific Computing  
Research

Phone: 301-903-0071  
seweryni@er.doe.gov