



PHASE

A Newsletter of Skaggs Center Internships

Issue #3

November 2008

The NOAA Office of Education Visit



Dr. Priti Brahma, Chantell Haskins and Don Mock during a tour of the Skaggs Research Center on October 8, 2008.

Stopping in Boulder on their way to the SACNAS (Society for the Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science) national conference in Salt Lake City, Dr. Priti Brahma and Chantell Haskins from the NOAA Office of Education managed to meet a wide range of ESRL employees and talk about undergraduate and graduate student programs.

Ann Thorne, the ESRL Student Coordinator, facilitated the visit and made arrangements to take full advantage of the opportunity for employees to personally explain the need for

better communication in addressing an aging work force and how students will step in to continue and expand the science being conducted in ESRL and other OAR laboratories.

The first meeting was to explain the current ESRL approach to managing the various student programs using the PHASE (Practical Hands-on Application to Science Education) model. (The October issue described various programs that can be tracked under PHASE.)

Dr. Steve Koch, GSD Director, took time from his busy schedule to discuss various aspects regarding the ISET (Interdisciplinary Scientific Environmental Technology) program. ISET began in September 2006 at North Carolina A&T State University as part of the Educational Partnership Program of the NOAA Office of Education. The major themes in the ISET Center include: atmospheric science, sensor science and sensor technology; numerical and physical research and analysis of hurricanes; and information technology tools for data fusion, data

mining and geospatial modeling and analysis. This past summer ESRL hosted eight ISET students.

Next was a briefing for managers. Thirteen attended and held a spirited discussion on the commitment that would be required for the graduate science program. (A copy of the briefing can be found at the NOAA Office of Education web site.) The same issues that have been around for the past thirty years are still alive and well. Who provides the FTE and the funding increase to hire a student after graduation?

After the briefing, Ann Thorne and Tony Tafoya had discussions with Priti Brahma and Chantell Haskins on why NOAA could not dust off the programs that Bob White and John Townsend had in the 1970s where they would guarantee a slot and funding if an outstanding woman or minority scientist would be hired. The statistics of that time show a sharp increase of successful hires. The problem is that most of those hires are now at retirement age, and they need to be replaced with equally talented and diverse employees. The four of us felt that it was not a question of talent, but one of having the will to hire from a diverse pool of candidates. We felt that it would take NOAA management to have the will to dust off the White/Townsend approach and provide the incentives necessary to move the hiring decisions along and not in reverse or in park

mode. The students now in school will replace the retiring work force, and there should be strategies in place to take the angst out of supervisors who do the hiring.

On day two, Don Mock, Executive Director, conducted his enhanced version of the Skaggs Research Center tour. This is the most comprehensive, informative, and historical explanation of what goes on and how ESRL got to be a world class center where employees enjoy coming to work. If you ever have an opportunity you should tag along. It's amazing what you will learn.

After going to lunch to get to know each other better, Ann Thorne showed our visitors where students will be housed during the summer months.

We later met with Karen Dempsey of the University of Colorado Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Science, better known as CIRES. Information to be posted was shared by CIRES and the NOAA Office of Education.

Finally, the ESRL Outreach and Education Committee met to discuss programs and activities. It was felt that by meeting and getting to know each other, future programs and coordination of activities would be more successful.

NOAA OFFICE OF EDUCATION STAFF VISIT BOULDER

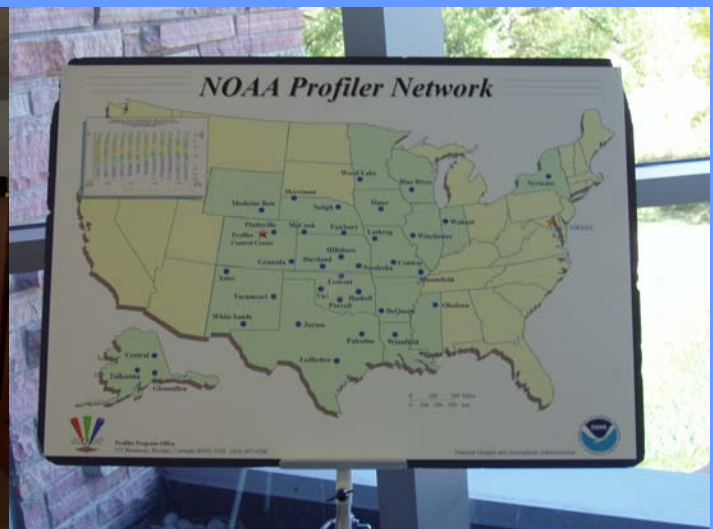


Dr. Priti Brahma, after a full day of meeting and briefing a wide range of employees in the Earth System Research Laboratory (ESRL) interested in improving student opportunities through programs administered by the NOAA Office of Education.

Meeting with the ESRL Education and Outreach Committee. Left to Right: Debe Fisher, Ann Thorne, Rhonda Lang, Carol Knight, Barb DeLuisi, Annie Reiser, Beth Russell, Chantell Haskins, and Priti Brahma.



Briefing for managers on the student programs administered by the NOAA Office of Education.



Profiler Chart used by Don Mock during the tour of the Skaggs Research Center. (See pages #1 and 2 on Don Mock's tour.)

Education, Science, Careers



NOAA Office of Education

2009 NOAA Ernest F. Hollings Undergraduate Scholarship Program

Participant Benefits:

- Up to \$8,000 in academic assistance per school year for up to two years
- 10-week, paid (\$650/week) summer internship
- Housing subsidy during summer internship



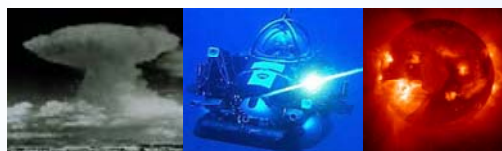
Application Deadline:

JANUARY 30, 2009

- Completed Applications must be received by January 30, 2009
- Official transcripts must be received by January 30, 2009
- Faxed Applications or Supporting Materials will not be accepted.**

Eligibility Requirements:

- US citizenship
- minimum 3.0 GPA (cumulative & current)
- Majoring in NOAA mission disciplines, including, oceanic, environmental, and atmospheric sciences, mathematics, engineering, remote sensing technology, physical and social sciences including, geography, physics, hydrology, policy, geomatics, or teacher education



**Applications available
November 1, 2008 at:**

http://www.orau.org/noaa_uspa/

For more information contact:

(301) 713-9437 x150

StudentScholarshipPrograms@noaa.gov

<http://www.oesd.noaa.gov>

The Goals and Objectives of the ESRL Intern Program

- A. To seek a broad development and expansion of internship opportunities for high school, college and graduate students and high school teachers.
- B. To assist and encourage NOAA organizations in establishing goals and identifying the best possible sources for the recruitment, employment, training and advancement of student interns.
- C. To encourage and actively support the promotion and advancement of Interns already employed.
- D. To analyze and determine the educational and professional needs of students seeking entry and advancement in employment; and, whenever possible, provide appropriate training and counseling services to meet these needs.
- E. To establish and continually upgrade a broad range of contact with supervisors and interns across the nation via personal visits, telephone calls, e-mails, and periodic newsletters.
- F. To respond to the reasonable requests from non NOAA groups for student referrals when their goals, and objectives are supportable and similar to the ESRL PHASE program.
- G. To enhance the promotion of student excellence, pride, and camaraderie through organized and regular social gatherings which will serve to bind members together.
- H. To provide a platform on major research issues of local and national significance so that students may be better informed and may express their views through seminar presentations before their peers and supervisors.
- I. To expand the objectives and yearly goals of PHASE to provide maximum impact on the benefits derived from the pursuit of these and future goals and objectives.

Key advisory Board Functions

The key functions performed by the PHASE Advisory Board include: **Advocacy on Employment and Education Issues; Membership and Outreach;** and **Consultation with Students and Supervisors.** The following is a brief description of each function:

Advocacy on Employment and Education Issues

The advocacy function is performed when members take a pro-active role in seeing that a client's issue is addressed by the appropriate community, education or government organization. This function typically involves the following: Assisting students and parents with local school issues, e.g. summer jobs, internships, grades and course requirements; Educating the community on student internship opportunities; Researching employment information and various employment topics.

Membership and Outreach

The membership committee is charged with an ongoing program of recruiting and retaining members. This involves coordinating a yearly membership drive for new members. The outreach function is performed by going out into the community to explain NOAA internship programs and communicating the assistance that can be provided. Typically, this function involves attending meetings and briefings, networking with NOAA agency representatives, providing orientation briefings to newcomers, attending training sessions and education workshops - both as participants and presenters.

Consultation

Consultation services are typically provided to clients who are in need of explanations related to documents that need an interpretation and require follow up actions. This function typically involves mediating an issue at the lowest level before it escalates and negotiating issues on behalf of clients and assisting the ESRL Student Coordinator with employee issues; Consultations are private.



***PHASE* is a publication
of**

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PHASE seeks to inform
employees and students on
employment programs and
internships.

Editors: Tony Tafoya and
Ann Thorne

MISSION

The mission of the Practical Hands on Application to Science Education (PHASE) program is to have students benefit from a science intern program at a Federal facility.

The objectives of the program are (1) for laboratories to identify student projects that provide a learning environment and focus on practical hands-on activities; (2) to provide laboratories with profiles of students who have an interest in considering NOAA and science in general as a positive career choice; and (3) to inform students of career opportunities in NOAA.

For those who did not get to meet Dr. Priti Brahma and Chantell Haskins, and would like more information on student programs in NOAA, they can be reached at the following:

Chantell Haskins, Student Scholarship Programs Manager, 301.713.9437, extension 150.

Dr. Priti Brahma, Graduate Scholarships, 301.713.9437, extension 150.

E-mail:
StudentSchlanshipPrgrams@noaa.gov

Jacqueline Rousseau is the Director of the NOAA Educational Partnership Program. She can be reached at 301.713.9437, extension 124.

E-mail:
Jacqueline.J.Rousseau@noaa.gov

COLLABORATING ORGANIZATIONS

FEDERAL AGENCIES:

NOAA/OAR/ESRL
NOAA/NWS/SWPC
NOAA/NESDIS/NGDC
NIST
NTIA

HIGHER EDUCATION:

University of Colorado/CIRES

COMMUNITY:

SACNAS
MESA
AISES
National Image, Inc.
Blacks-In-Government

SCHOOL DISTRICTS:

Boulder Valley
St. Vrain Valley



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Please add me to newsletter mailing list. (Please print or type.) Issue #3, 2008

Name	
Home Address or School Address	
City, State, Zip Code	
Telephone and E-mail Address	

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