

NUCLEUS NEWSLETTER

Spring 2007 Issue

What NUCLEUS Has Done for Us

With a rich environment for wholly nurturing young scientists, the NUCLEUS program provided the Class of 2007 with more than what they have needed over the years.

Senior Joshua Wallace comments that NUCLEUS has "given me a support system, and a network of people who share similar goals as me."

The NUCLEUS program provides a bonding experience between students and serves as the nutritive soil for strong-rooted relationships.

Seniors remember Dr. Cherie Dotson, the NUCLEUS coordinator whom greeted them in 2003. Dr. Dotson has been influential academically and personally helping students feel right at home.

"Home" is the way Lauren Williams a graduating senior describes the NUCLEUS Program. She remarked, "NUCLEUS can be an escape where you are surrounded by good people and lots of laughs."

The NUCLEUS program is a haven for fun activities that include kickball games, video lunch breaks, and the awesome pot-luck dinners that seniors took advantage of over the years.

Dr. Zakiya Wilson, the coordinator of NUCLEUS in 2006, has also provided the seniors with great memories and strategies for success. Despite her short stay with the NUCLEUS Program, she continues to be in touch with them and encourages them to sustain their relationship for years to come.

Continuing the tradition is Ms. Jacqueline Aldridge. She widened the opportunities for academic and personal success in the seniors' final year as the new NUCLEUS Coordinator. Ms. Aldridge is inspiring, active, fun and relatable providing all of the NUCLEUS members with a positive example.

Through it all, from the blazing roller coasters in Six Flags to the murky depths of General Chemistry, the Class of 2007 will have a special place for the NUCLEUS Program and its faculty members.

Obi Mmagu

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CONGRATS TO THE CLASS OF 2007!

Congrats to the class of 2007!! You've worked hard and persevered through 4 years of life experiences here at UD.

As you turn the page and begin the next chapter in your lives, remember the hard and more difficult experiences you encountered as an undergraduate.

These are the experiences that have helped mold and shape your character, and more importantly will help keep you grounded in your future

success.

Lastly, you are now officially a member of the NUCLEUS Alumni Network! Keep in touch with us and let us know how you are doing.

We are an awesome academic family, so it is vital that we stay connected. Take care scholars. I'll miss you.

Love,
Ms. Jackie



WHAT HAPPENED TO THE ALUMNI???

After four years of memories, triumphs, failures, and friendships NUCLEUS wants to keep up with its alumni. Here are some testimonies from two of our 2006 graduates.

"Since graduating from the University of Delaware, I have continued my education by pursuing a Ph.D in Biological Sciences. I originally enrolled in the Ph.D. program at Mt. Sinai School of Medicine, but have decided to transfer University of Maryland Baltimore County into their Ph.D. program in Biological Sciences.

"Obtaining my Ph.D. in Biological Sciences was not my intended plan when I entered college, however, it is impossible to think what my life would be like without research. The reason why I have found true passion for my career and my life goals is definitely due in part to the NUCLEUS program and its staff.

"With a better understanding and appreciation for what the Biotechnology field, I have experienced many eye-opening endeavors that have propelled me into pursuing a Ph.D. in Cell Biology & Anatomy at the University of Arizona College of Medicine.

"I completed my Bachelor's of Science degree in Biological sciences with a concentration in biotechnology, coupled with a minor in Economics, from the University of Delaware.

"In the fall of my senior year, I was recognized by the NSF Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship program in genomics of the University of Arizona as a future creative agent for change in cell biology. This program trains students to functional, computational & evolutionary genomics with the intent that they implement an interdisciplinary approach to science throughout their future work in their respective fields.

"During my first year at the University of Arizona, I was particularly interested in finding common ground between these three genomic areas and understanding human disease mechanisms.

"Dr. Dotson had a major influence in my scientific career. She encouraged me to try to explore other aspects of science such as research, and this open the door to my true passion of becoming a scientist.

"I attribute a lot of my success to the NUCLEUS program. The program was there for me to help guide my goals and dreams. Without the program, I am unsure of where I would be.

"NUCLEUS helped me discover my career goal and supported me academically and financially.

"Through the NUCLEUS program I was able to attend various national and international conference which me to various conferences and encouraged me to become affluent in presenting my research at both national and international conferences.

"The ability to have a program that is willing to help you achieve and become a better scientist or doctor is not only an amazing opportunity but also a privilege"

"I have completed lab rotations and given presentations in detecting human genes undergoing positive selection across populations and plasmodium falciparum including the identifying of players involved in hemoglobin vesicle transport. I also wrote a PERL program to identify all proteins in the yeast genome with prion-like binding domains in hope to identify more self-aggregating proteins present in p-bodies.

"In addition to pursuing my PhD, I plan to establish a Black Graduate Students Association at the University of Arizona. This organization will not only build inter-connecting networks across disciplines for the graduate students scattered across campus, but will also spearhead a strong mentoring group to groom the underrepresented leaders of the future."

Chinedu Nworu
Class of 2006

"For those who have taken advantage of the program, continue not only to take from the program but also to give back to the program. For those who have yet to take full advantage of the program, it is really important to realize that for minority science majors there is very little support especially when you are looking at higher degrees such as a Master's or Ph.D in the sciences.

"The ability to have a program that is willing to help you achieve and become a better scientist or doctor is not only an amazing opportunity but also a privilege. Please take advantage of what NUCLEUS has to offer and allow the program to help you achieve all your goals in college so you are ready to pursue your career goals post-undergraduate years"

Nicole Barkley
Class of 2006



Chinedu Nworu and Nicole Barkley on their graduation day, May 27, 2006

HUNDREDS TURN OUT FOR THIS YEAR'S MULTI-ETHNIC CAREER FAIR

For many of the students attending the University of Delaware, thinking about life outside of college could be daunting. Most students think that there is no need to worry about the future until senior year.

The 20th annual Multi-Ethnic Career Development Conference was held on March 3rd, 2007 and yielded a fantastic turnout. This year, the program's theme was: Turning Interests into Careers "Thinking Outside the Box."

The theme encouraged and empowered students to think beyond what is generally presented as career options and discover their own hidden passion for a dream job even if it was not to be a doctor or lawyer.

Panels, consisted of alumni, were geared towards developing leadership skills and learning how to market oneself. They provided attending students with an opportunity to learn how to utilize University resources and their own abilities to build a successful ca-

reer.

The program exposed freshmen and sophomores to the reality that every

"Most students think that there is no need to worry about the future until senior year..."

year is just as important as the final one, and that it is never too early to consider options for the future.

These individuals discovered career objectives and became acquainted with corporations seeking prospective employees at the University. This allowed the students to network among themselves and with potential employers, build bridges and connections useful for obtaining internships or permanent jobs after graduation.

The conference provided valuable lessons in professional training. Stu-

dents in attendance were required to wear business attire and bring resumes. Afterwards, students positively commented that the speakers were extremely approachable and were not hesitant to share any of their experience or knowledge with the students.

The next conference will be held sometime in March 2008 with a different theme still aimed at encouraging students to explore the world around them and use every resource to one's advantage.

In the meantime, for career advisement please call 302-831-2392 to reach the University's Bank of America Career Services to schedule an appointment with an advisor that specializes in your major.

Neeta Jain

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NINTH ANNUAL DEAN'S LIST DINNER

When attending a university with 15,000 other undergraduate students it can be difficult to stand out. The Dean's List is a way of recognizing and honoring students who work hard academically and achieve a certain grade point average every semester.

As of May 5, 1994 the GPA requirement to make the Dean's List at the University of Delaware was raised from a 3.25 to a 3.33, which is the equivalent of a B+ average.

According to Barbara Viera, a former chairperson of the Committee on Undergraduate Studies, about 20% of the undergraduate student population makes the Dean's List each semester.

The Network of Undergraduate Collaborative Learning Experience for Underrepresented Scholars (NUCLEUS) is funded by the Howard Hughes Medical Institute to recruit, retain and graduate academically talented students from underrepresented groups majoring in the sciences.

NUCLEUS distinguishes and honors students in the program who make the Dean's List by hosting an annual Dean's List Dinner.

The Ninth Annual Dean's List Dinner was held on Tuesday, March 6, 2007 at 5:00 pm in the President's Room at the Blue & Gold Club.



Along with other faculty and administrators, President David Roselle and Dean Thomas Apple of the College of Arts and Sciences were present to enjoy the dinner and congratulate the academic achievement of the students

who made the Dean's List in the fall semester of 2006.

This distinguishing occasion serves dually as an honor for outstanding students and as an incentive for striving academicians.

Jill Beitz

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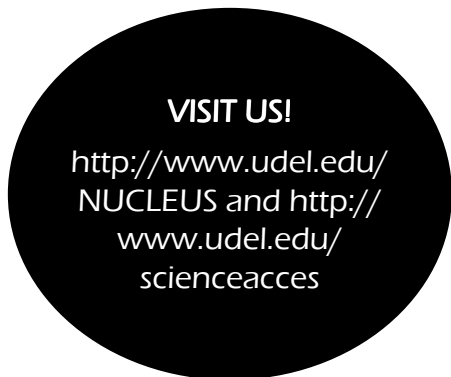
NUCLEUS Welcomes and Greatly appreciates your contributions and support! If you would like to help us assist students in achieving their academic/career goals, financial gifts may be sent to:

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**Checks should be made payable to
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The intuitive mind is a sacred gift and the rational mind is a faithful servant. We have created a society that honors the servant and has forgotten the gift.

-Albert Einstein



Meet the Staff!

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UD NOT SO “SPIC’ AND SPAN”??

On May 5, 2007 students gathered to celebrate “Cinco de Mayo”, the Independence Day of Mexico. There were many celebrations throughout the University’s perimeters; down Main St. at the bars and even house parties.

There was only one party, however, that gained publicity throughout the tri-state area. The members of the honors fraternity Phi Sigma Pi hosted a Cinco de Mayo themed party that raised eyebrows and inquiries of racism.

Beyond the sombreros and tequila, shirts were worn displaying the phrase “Spic ‘n’ Span”. The term ‘spic’ is considered a racial slur and is offensive to individual’s of Hispanic decent.

Many members of the Hispanic community were offended. A forum was hosted by the Campus Alliance de La Raza, an organization on campus that



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promotes social change in Latino communities.

Hundreds of university students were present along with television crews from several local stations. During the forum racism was addressed as

whole targeting its prevention and correction.

Students suggested racial sensitivity classes, musically eclectic concerts, unifying the Greek organizations on campus, and galvanizing personal action to stop hate by taking offense and raising questions.

Others expressed dismay saying that efforts are wasted in an attempt to correct racism on campus due to lack of student support.

Nonetheless, the take-home message was to fight racism starting with self; to desire a change in the perspectives of others and to identify with the ethnic group at the butt of a joke.

Lauren C. Williams

Editor, NUCLEUS