



MARC U*STAR/MBRS RISE PROGRAMS

NEWSLETTER • SPRING 2013 • BARRY UNIVERSITY • COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

ABOUT THE PROGRAMS

The MARC U*STAR and MBRS RISE programs are supported by the National Institutes of Health to provide research opportunities for students and faculty. MARC U*STAR scholars are biology, psychology, chemistry, computer science and mathematics majors who carry out research on campus and who will pursue a PhD in their major. Scholars receive tuition and a monthly stipend. MBRS RISE students major in biology and chemistry and are paid an hourly wage to carry out research with faculty on campus during the semesters and off campus during the summers.

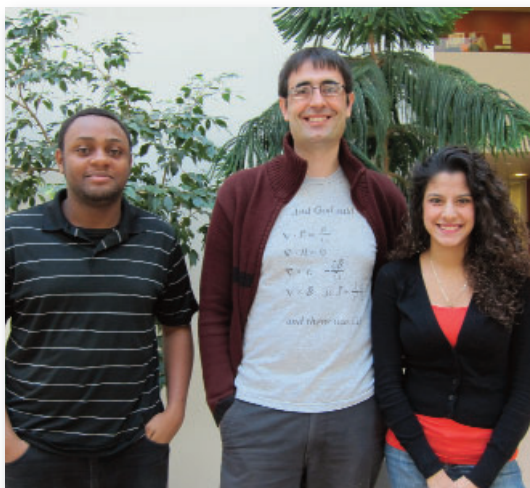
The MARC and RISE programs support the ROADS Research Club. The club provides authentic group research experiences for freshmen and sophomores in the sciences. For more information, contact Dr. Michael Robinson at 305-899-4930, mprobinson@barry.edu, or visit www.barry.edu/ROADS. New students can apply to ROADS through myBarry.

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- www.barry.edu/mbrsrise
- www.barry.edu/marc

Student Accomplishments



From left: Jovans Lorquet, Dr. Maurizio Giannotti and Talia Guardia

Talia Guardia (RISE-Biology), **Jovans Lorquet** (RISE-Biology) and **Dr. Maurizio Giannotti**, assistant professor of physics, attended the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Department of Biology workshop on quantitative biology, January 3-10, 2013, in Cambridge, Massachusetts. The six-day course included daily faculty lectures (in genetics, biochemistry, cell biology and statistics), followed by relevant hands-on activities, daily research seminars by graduate students on cutting-edge methods and daily sessions on critical evaluation of scientific papers.

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From left: Talia Guardia, Precious deVerteuil, Sandra Richardson, Launie Bruno, Marcela Toro and Nicole Lopez

Sandra Richardson and **Marcela Toro**, two senior biology majors, received travel awards to attend the national Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students (ABRCMS), held November 7-11, 2012, in San Jose, California. Four MARC and RISE students also attended the meeting, and all students presented their research. Sandra, who works under the mentorship of Dr. Stephanie Bingham, received an award for her poster presentation on her neuroscience research. She investigated the effect of embryonic ethanol exposure on zebrafish development. Just over 200 awards were given to the approximately 1,820 student presentations, and Sandra was one of them. Students were mentored by Dr. Bingham and Dr. Flona Redway.

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From left: Dr. Leticia Vega, Jovans Lorquet and Sue Ann Flores

Five Barry University students presented at the American Society for Cell Biology (ASCB) 2012 Annual Meeting, held December 14-18, 2012, in San Francisco, California. The students were mentored by Dr. Brenda Schoffstall and Dr. Leticia Vega. **Jovans Lorquet** (RISE-Biology), received second place for his poster presentation. The poster by Jovans and **Sue Ann Flores** (RISE-Chemistry) consisted of research investigating the identification and characterization of synthetic interactions between cdc13-1 and yKU80 mutant alleles on yeast telomeres.

Student & Faculty Refereed Publications

Gemma D'Aniello, Salvatore Ronsini, Tiziana Notari, Natascia Grieco, Vincenzo Infante, Nicola D-Angelo, Fara Macia, Maria Maddalena Di Fiore, **George Fisher**, and Antimo D'Aniello. D-Aspartate, a Key Element for the Improvement of Sperm Quality, *Advances Sexual Medicine*, 2:47-53, 2012.

Dr. Tang Hu reviewed one manuscript (MS 96258#) for the journal *ISRN Hematology*; one manuscript (MS ID: 3869#) for the journal *Cancer Management and Research*.

M. Giannotti, M. Wise, and **A. Mohammed**. (2013). MESAFace, a graphical interface to analyze the MESA output. *Computer Physics Communications*, 2013 April, 184(4): 1333-1338 doi: 10.1016/j.cpc.2012.12.023

David Soulsby, Laura J. Anna, and **Anton S. Wallner**. "NMR Spectroscopy in the Undergraduate Curriculum", *ACS Symposium Series*, 1128.

Faculty Accomplishments



Dr. Peter Lin

Drs. Peter Lin, Teresa Petrino and Flona Redway presented a poster presentation titled "Infusing Problem Based Learning (PBL) across the research curriculum," at the 2012 Florida Statewide Symposium – Engagement in Undergraduate Research on October 19-20, 2012, at the University of Central Florida.

Dr. Brenda Schoffstall, assistant professor of biology, attended the 2012 ASCB Annual Meeting in San Francisco, California, and presented a poster titled "A Zebrafish cardiac overload stress model for the investigation of cardiomyocyte



From left: Nicholas Morales, Dr. Brenda Schoffstall, Cyndie Derne and Daphne Petit-Homes

proliferation," co-authored by **Nicole Lopez** (MARC) and **Daniela Mendoza** (RISE). Dr. Schoffstall and three of her research students, **Nicholas Morales** (ROADS-Biology), **Cyndie Derne** (ROADS-Biology) and **Daphne Petit-Homme** (ROADS-Biology), also made poster presentations and were recipients of the 2012 ASCB MAC Travel Award. The three students co-authored a poster titled "Classification of the normal gut microbiome of harvestmen (Order Opiliones, Class Arachnida), research conducted as ROADS club members."



Dr. Maurizio Giannotti

Dr. Maurizio Giannotti, assistant professor of physics, received an award to attend the MIT Department of Biology pilot workshop on quantitative biology from January 3-10, 2012, in Cambridge, Massachusetts. The faculty participants reviewed and evaluated material presented on that day, proposed ways to incorporate the material in their classes, and made recommendations for future workshops. In addition, several meetings were conducted with faculty and minority graduate students at MIT to discuss student preparation for the challenges of graduate schools.

Alumni Updates

Monica Barreto (MARC '11) will graduate on April 28 with a Master of Science in Applied Developmental Psychology with a Behavioral Health Concentration, from The University of Pittsburgh. Monica is currently a milieu therapist at UPMC Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic.

Sarah Garcia, MS (MARC '09) will obtain her Specialist in School Psychology (SSP) degree in June 2013 and will enroll in the PhD in Educational Leadership program at Barry University in fall 2013. Sarah also married Dukens Sanon on June 16, 2012.



Dukens and Sara Sanon

Efrain Garcia, PhD (MARC '00) is currently the branch chief of international partnerships in the Division of International Health Security at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Juan E. Gonzalez, PhD, CRNA (MBRS '93) is the assistant program director and clinical assistant professor in the Department of Nurse Anesthetist Practice at Florida International University.

Ann Marie Landin, PhD (MARC '97) received a PhD in Physiology from the University College of Cork, Ireland, in December 2012.

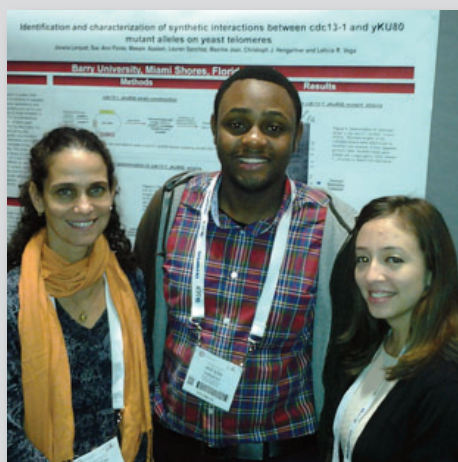
Lenore P. Rodicio, PhD (MARC '94) is currently the vice provost for student achievement at Miami Dade College in Miami, Florida.

Student Attendance & Presentations at Scientific Meetings



From left: Sandra Richardson, Launie Bruno, Talia Guardia, Marcela Toro, Nicole Lopez, Dr. Flona Redway and Precious deVerteuil at the Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students in November.

Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students (ABRCMS), held November 7-11, 2012, in San Jose, California. Launie Bruno (MARC-poster), Precious de Verteuil (MARC-poster), Talia Guardia (RISE-poster), Nicole Lopez (MARC-poster).



From left: Dr. Leticia Vega, Jovans Lorquet and Sue Ann Flores at the 2012 Annual ASCB Meeting.



Dr. Brenda Schoffstall and ROADS students Nicholas Morales, Cyndie Derne and Daphne Petit-Homme enjoy San Francisco at the 2012 Annual ASCB Meeting.

American Society for Cell Biology (ASCB), held December 15-19, 2012, in San Francisco, California. Sue Ann Flores (RISE) and Jovans Lorquet (RISE) delivered poster presentations. ROADS students Nicholas Morales, Cyndie Derne and Daphne Petit-Homme also made poster presentations and were recipients of the 2012 ASCB MAC Travel Award.



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Christmas Party

On December 11, 2012, we celebrated the festive season with our annual Christmas party. Students, faculty and staff enjoyed delicious food, games, and listening to a musical performance by RISE student Jovans Lorquet. Nicole Lopez also showed her knowledge of sign language by performing “The Christmas Song” by Nat King Cole.

