



# Research Initiative for Scientific Enhancement (RISE)

College of Arts and Sciences | Spring 2016

## ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The RISE program is supported by the National Institutes of Health to provide research opportunities for students. 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 RISE program supports the ROADS Research Club. The club provides authentic group research experiences for freshmen and sophomores in the sciences. Contact Dr. Michael Robinson at 305.899.4930, [mprobinson@mail.barry.edu](mailto:mprobinson@mail.barry.edu), or visit the website at [www.barry.edu/mbrsrise/programactivities/roads](http://www.barry.edu/mbrsrise/programactivities/roads).

New students can apply to ROADS through their MyBarry account.

Contact Dr. Flona Redway at 305.899.3542 for further information or visit: [www.barry.edu/riase](http://www.barry.edu/riase)

**Flona Redway, PhD**,  
RISE Program Director  
**Michael Robinson, PhD**,  
ROADS Coordinator  
**Norma Barrera, BS**,  
RISE Administrative Assistant

## Student Accomplishments



Left to Right: Dr. Redway, Joshua Kelly, Bertina Telusma, and KeuAuyndria Edwards

**Bertina Telusma** and **Joshua Kelly** received awards for their poster presentations at ABRCMS in Seattle, WA, Nov 11-15, 2015. Joshua spent the summer in Dr. Chady Hakim's lab at University of Missouri, studying Duchenne muscular dystrophy, and Bertina carried out research at Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in Dr. David Page's lab studying proteins interacting with STRA8. **KeiAuyndria Edwards** received a full travel award to present at ABRCMS. KeiAuyndria presented research on Hut 78 T cell activation, conducted at the University of Iowa, summer 2015.

**Bertina Telusma**, has accepted an offer to complete a research internship at MIT for spring 2016 after completing a summer internship there. The internship is supported by MIT, Barry University and the RISE grant.

**Diana Cordero**, having completed a summer internship at Dauphin Island Sea Lab (DISL), 2015, was nominated to represent the DISL Research Undergraduate Experience (REU) program, and also to present her research at the American Society of Luminology and Oceanography, Feb 20-26, 2016.



Kamren Livingston

**Kamren Livingston** (RISE-Biology) attended the MIT Department of Biology workshop on quantitative biology, January 2-9, 2016, in Cambridge, MA. The six-day workshop included daily faculty lectures (in genetics, biochemistry, cell biology and statistics), followed by relevant hands-on activities, research seminars by graduate students on cutting-edge methods and daily sessions on critical evaluation of scientific papers.

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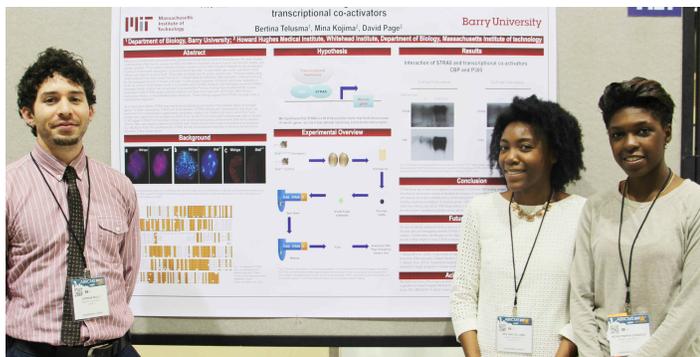
## Student Attendance and Presentation at Scientific Meetings

Sigma Xi, October 22-25, 2015 in Kansas City, MI. RISE Student **Shanika Kingston** made a poster presentation on research conducted at University of Wisconsin-Madison, summer 2015.



Left to Right: Shanika Kingston and Dr. Redway

Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students (ABRCMS), Nov 11-15, 2015 in Seattle, WA. RISE students **Bertina Telsuma**, **Joshua Kelly** and **KeiAuyndria Edwards** made poster presentations on their summer research conducted at Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), University of Missouri and University of Iowa, summer 2015 respectively.



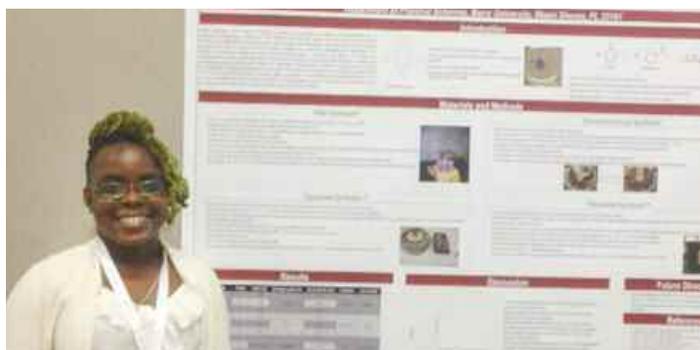
Left to Right: Joshua Kelly, Bertina Telsuma, and KeiAuyndria Edwards

American Society for Cell Biology (ASCB) Annual Meeting Dec 12-18, 2015 in San Diego, CA. RISE students **Kamren Livingston** and **KeiAuyndria Edwards** and non-RISE student Peter Rodriguez made poster presentations on their summer research conducted in Dr. Leticia Vega and Dr. Brenda Schoffstall's lab, respectively.

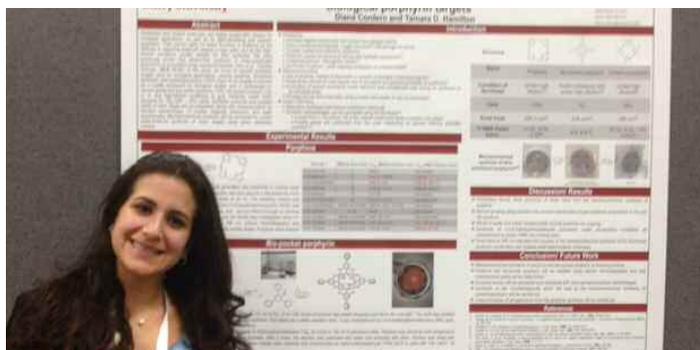


Left to Right: Peter Rodriguez, KeiAuyndria Edwards, Kamren Livingston, and Dr. Leticia Vega

The International Chemical Congress of Pacific Basin Societies 2015, Dec 15-20, 2015 in Honolulu, HI. RISE students **Diana Cordero** and **Shanika Kingston** and non-RISE student **Qiwen Su** made poster presentations on their research conducted in Dr. Tamara Hamilton's lab.



Shanika Kingston



Diana Cordero

## Recent graduate



Left to Right: Dr. Teresa Petrino and KeiAuyndria Edwards

**KeiAuyndria Edwards** completed the requirements for the BS Biology, December 2015. She is applying to graduate programs for fall 2016.

### Student Quote:

“The Research Initiative for Scientific Enhancement (RISE) program has allowed me to venture into a career path that I am passionate about. During my time as a RISE student, I was not only challenged as a research scientist, but also as a student. The program instilled skills such as resilience and independence within myself and I personally feel that these are valuable skills for a scientist. Furthermore, Dr. Redway’s guidance has helped me create and attain realistic goals for myself. Overall, I enjoyed my time in RISE and this program has been an essential factor in my undergraduate career and future graduate endeavors.”

## ROADS club members after Barber of Seville



## Celebrating “Monster Munch”



## Student Accomplishments

### Sigma Alpha Pi

**Mariana Ruiz** and **Alice Nakasone** were inducted into Sigma Alpha Pi, The National Society of Leadership and Success on December 3, 2015.

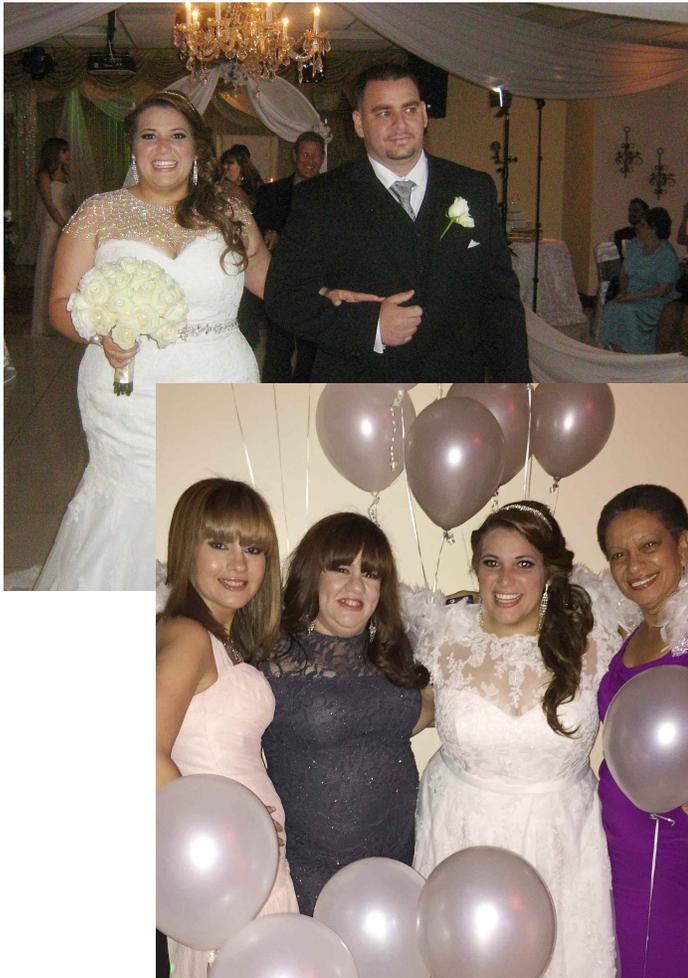


## Alumni Updates

**Jodi-Ann Browning-Bent** (RISE '09) is currently working at Truman College in Admissions. Browning-Bent and her husband welcomed, Katelynn Olivia Bent to their family.



**Michelle Aznarez** (former MARC/RISE technical coordinator) tied the knot with Lazaro Cuervo November 6, 2015. Michelle is completing the requirements toward the PhD in Educational Leadership with a focus on Special Education.



**Dr. Lisan Parker** (MARC '97) got married to Dr. Kyle Smith on November 21, 2015.



**Fanny Fierro-Padron** (MBRS '96) married Rafael Padron at the Cathedral of Saint Mary, November 7, 2015.



## Faculty Accomplishments

The 8th Annual Florida Statewide Symposium, Engagement in Undergraduate Research, October 2-3, 2015, in Orlando, FL. Dr. Teresa Petrino-Lin, Associate Professor, and Dr. Yu-Wai Peter Lin, Professor delivered a presentation on "Undergraduate Research Practices at a Small University."

American Society for Cell Biology (ASCB) Annual Meeting Dec 12-18, 2015 in San Diego, CA. Dr. Leticia Vega, Associate Professor, delivered a poster presentation on her ongoing research in telomeres.

Dr. Tamara Hamilton mentored 3 of her research students to The International Chemical Congress of Pacific Basin Societies 2015, Dec 15-20, 2015 in Honolulu, HI, as they presented research from her lab on the greener synthesis of porphyrin molecules by grinding. Porphyrin are biologically-relevant molecules that can currently only be synthesized in small yields, by using large amounts of solvent.



Left to Right: Qiwen Su, Diana Cordero, and Dr. Tamara Hamilton

In October 2015, Dr. George Fisher, Professor, was re-elected for a 3-year term at Executive Treasurer of Gamma Sigma Epsilon National Chemistry Honor Society.

Dr. Xiaotang Hu, Professor, and Dr. Laura Mudd, Chair, coedited and published a book titled "The world of biological molecules through the eyes and hands of undergraduate students" September 2015, ISBN Number: 1943955166, Green Ivy Publishing, Chicago, Illinois.

During the fall 2015 semester Dr. Hu completed his sabbatical at the College of Life Sciences, Nanjing Normal University, China. During the sabbatical he taught a graduate level course "Signal Transduction,"

designed by Dr. Hu to meet the college's objective of teaching students in English. Dr. Hu gave two special presentations titled "Signal Transduction, Cell Cycle and Cancer" to undergraduate students. He attended one PI's (Dr. Liu Chang) lab meetings weekly and discussed the preliminary research data on the liver metabolism and biological clock presented by the graduate students in the PI's lab. By giving a specific presentation to the faculty of the Institute of Molecular Cell Biology in this college, Dr. Hu introduced general information about Barry University and its education system. Dr. Hu also presented at the College of Public Health, Central South University, China, "My teaching and research at Barry University" in response to their invitation (Changsha, Hunan, China, November 19, 2015). Dr. Hu also attended one national (Nanjing, Jiangsu, China, October 17-18, 2015) and one regional (Nanjing, Jiangsu, China, November 28-29) biology research meeting during the sabbatical.



Left to Right: Dr. Hu and Colleague

### Student & Faculty Refereed Publications

Trissal, Maria C., **Ricardo A. DeMoya**, Amy P. Schmidt, and Daniel C. Link. "MicroRNA-223 Regulates Granulopoiesis but is not required for HSC Maintenance in Mice." PLoS One. 2015; 10(3): e0119304.

[www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4368818/](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4368818/)

Xiaotang Hu, Verronika Laguerre, Daniel Packert, **Alice Nakasone** and Lynn Moscin. "A Simple and Efficient Method for Preparing Cell Slides and Staining without Using Cyto centrifuge and Cytoclips," International Journal of Cell Biology, vol. 2015, Article ID 813216, 4 pages, 2015.

doi:10.1155/2015/813216

[www.dx.doi.org/10.1155/2015/813216](http://www.dx.doi.org/10.1155/2015/813216)

# Christmas Party

On December 4th, 2015, we celebrated the festive season with our annual Christmas party. Students, faculty, and staff enjoyed delicious food, games, and fellowship.

Now accepting applicants for RISE program!



## RISE PROGRAM