



INSIGHTS

volume 14 | commonfund.nih.gov/diversity

See you at SACNAS!

In October, the *Enhancing the Diversity of the NIH-Funded Workforce* program is attending the 2014 national conference of the Society for the Advancement of Hispanics/ Chicanos and Native Americans in Science (SACNAS).

We will be part of the “One NIH” exhibit (booth 424), so be sure to stop by to talk with NIH staff, ask questions, and share your thoughts! Learn more at <http://sacnas.org/events/national-conf>

About this Program

The *Enhancing the Diversity of the NIH-Funded Workforce* program is funded through the NIH Common Fund, and managed by the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities in partnership with the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute.

Coming Soon! BUILD, NRMN, & CEC Awardees

Awards for the BUILD, NRMN, and CEC initiatives will be announced this fall! Look for a special edition of the Program Insights Newsletter that will provide more information about the projects that will be supported. For more information about the Funding Opportunity Announcements for these awards, please visit <http://commonfund.nih.gov/diversity/grants>.

NIMHD Loan Repayment Programs

The overall purpose of the five NIH Loan Repayment Programs (LRPs) is to recruit and retain highly qualified health professionals as clinical investigators. The National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD) offers two loan repayment opportunities for doctoral or equivalent researchers: the Extramural Clinical Research Loan Repayment Program for Individuals from Disadvantaged Backgrounds (LRP-IDB) and the Extramural Loan Repayment Program for Health Disparities Research (LRP-HDR). Of the five NIH-wide LRPs, the LRP-IDB is the only program to target individuals from economically disadvantaged backgrounds for student loan repayment. The LRP targets statistically significantly younger doctoral applicants than other career development mechanisms, such as K or R awards, and serves as a valuable pipeline for minority health disparities or other health disparities researchers. NIMHD is the only institute that supports this research direction and has consistently through the life of the

Going Viral

Social media is ubiquitous, and the science community is actively doing its part to share more than data and findings, especially on Twitter.

Ensure that your best posts are seen by the broadest possible community by using the hashtag **#academia**.

Scholar Sunday is like Follow Friday for academia, where you share with the world who the scholars are that you follow and why. Use the hashtag **#scholarsunday**.

Stay current on goings-on here by following NIH ([@NIH](#)), our Director Francis S. Collins ([@NIHDirector](#)), and news from the Common Fund ([@NIH_CommonFund](#)).

LRP supported more minority recipients than any other NIH Institute or Center. LRP support makes a significant statement about the value of the potential research contribution of researchers from disadvantaged backgrounds. Further, economic stress is often an undeniable driver that pushes young scholars away from a research career toward more lucrative jobs in industry when the individual's passion is to remain in research. The LRP provides a resource that makes a choice for research viable.

In 2014, the NIMHD Loan Repayment Programs supported 211 researchers conducting research on minority health or other health disparities or researchers from disadvantaged backgrounds conducting clinical research in the LRP-IDB and LRP-HDR programs. Researchers represent 38 states across the United States, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. For more information, go to <http://www.nimhd.nih.gov/programs/extra/lrp.html>.

Other Diversity News

The National Science Foundation (NSF) recently announced a new program, "Lighting the Pathway to Faculty Careers for Natives in STEM." Lighting the Pathway is a \$1.5 million, five year pilot program with the American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES) that is designed to increase the representation of American Indians and Alaska Natives in tenure track positions. www.nsf.gov

In June, the Association of American Colleges and Universities (AACU) selected 20 institutions to participate in its Teaching to Increase Diversity and Equity in STEM (TIDES) initiative. Funding, coming from a \$4.9 million grant from the Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust, will support curriculum and faculty development to advance evidence-based and culturally competent teaching in STEM, particularly in the computer and information science fields. www.aacu.org