



Southern Regional Education Board State Doctoral Scholars Program News & Notes - Winter 2005

Now in our 11th year... 580 scholars served... 233 program graduates... 11 Annual Institutes on Teaching and Mentoring

Greetings from your SREB-State Doctoral Scholars Program Team

The SREB-State Doctoral Scholars Program newsletter's purpose is to communicate important program information, maintain contact with scholars and alumni, and build a sense of community among and between current scholars, graduates and program staff.

Scholars will play a significant role in the process of producing this newsletter. We need NEWS - news about your personal and professional accomplishments that you wish to share with our scholar community. It will be your - "the scholars" - responsibility to keep us informed.

Another scholar responsibility includes keeping your contact information in the online Scholar Directory updated. This allows us to provide you with better program services including mailings, announcements, email messages, publications and other communications. We have also been marketing this online directory to institutions for use as a resource to identify prospective faculty. A number of institutions now regularly use our directory for their faculty searches so keep your information current.

Later on in this newsletter you have the opportunity to learn more about each of our team members. I hope you enjoy this newsletter and we expect and look forward to hearing from you soon!

Ansley A. Abraham



From left to right: Dr. Ansley Abraham (Director), Robbie Ouzts (Scholar Coordinator) and Trakia Walker (Institute and Grants Coordinator).



From left to right: Dr. Robert "Bob" Belle (AGEP Director), Melissa Koran (Accounting Assistant) and Walter "Walt" Jacobs (Senior Consultant).

Highlights from the past 11 years of the Doctoral Scholars Program

- 580 scholars served in eleven years
- 233 program graduates
- 11 Institutes on Teaching and Mentoring
- 5,000 participants at the previous Institutes
- 850 participants for the 2004 Institute

Next year's Institute in Arlington, Virginia is expected to attract new participants, exciting programming, and additional learning opportunities. These are just some highlights of the program - read about more in the publication "**A Decade, A Difference... But Still Far to Go,**" one of many new program publications. Information on how to obtain this and other publications appears on page six.

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Highlights from the 11th Annual Institute on Teaching and Mentoring held October 21-24 at the Omni Hotel at CNN Center in Atlanta, Georgia

THE INSTITUTE AT A GLANCE...

850 participants in attendance

68 different sessions conducted

40 different institutions recruited

47 different states participated including scholars
and faculty from the commonwealth of Puerto Rico

Don't forget to visit the new website

www.instituteonteachingandmentoring.org

We've completed another successful Compact for Faculty Diversity Annual Institute on Teaching and Mentoring. The Compact is a combination of three interstate compacts - the New England Board of Higher Education (NEBHE), the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB), and the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE). This year's Institute was in Atlanta and was our largest and best yet. There were faculty, scholars, guests, state representatives and leaders from almost every state on hand for the four day event.

This year's Institute welcomed participants from all over the United States from each region of the compact as well as special groups. Some of the groups in attendance this year included: Alliance for Graduate Education and the Professoriate (AGEP), Alfred. P. Sloan Foundation Minority Ph.D. Program, BRIDGES to the Professoriate Program (NIH), and the Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement Program.

We were also honored to welcome an additional group of first-time participants - the National Science Foundation Postdoctoral Scholars (NSF). For more information about the Institute, visit us online at www.instituteonteachingandmentoring.org.

Love May Be an Institute Away... "More than a Check and a Handshake" for these Two Doctoral Scholars

The Doctoral Scholars Program's motto, "More than a Check and a Handshake" certainly applies to recent graduates Dr.'s Norris and Jessica Gunby. So how did the life of the party marry the girl who never went to the party? It all began in the airport at the close of the Annual Institute on Teaching and Mentoring in Washington, DC in 2002. Jessica was sitting and talking with a fellow doctoral scholar at an airport restaurant when Norris paid an airport worker to ask if he could buy her a drink. After their initial meeting, Norris and Jessica remained in contact via e-mail. Throughout their e-mail conversations, Norris would flirt with Jessica. However, Jessica did not take him seriously and she was too involved with her dissertation. When Jessica e-mailed Norris that she had defended her dissertation, taken a job at North Carolina State University, and was moving to Raleigh, North Carolina, Norris decided to be more direct. He told her that he was interested in her and asked her out. She said "Yes".



Their first date was June 15, 2003. On that date, he realized Jessica was different and that there was something special about her. As such, he drove 3 hours one-way to see her every weekend after that for a month! Norris and Jessica continued to date, although long-distance, for a year. Then on June 17, 2004, Norris proposed. Exhausted and frustrated from the details of wedding planning (not to mention the cost), they decided to elope to Las Vegas. On August 12, 2004, Norris and Jessica were married. They joined us in Atlanta in October at the Institute to celebrate their union. Take heart fellow SREB singles...love may be just an Institute away!

12th Annual Institute on Teaching and Mentoring

It is never too early to start thinking about the next Institute on Teaching and Mentoring.

The 12th Annual Institute on Teaching and Mentoring will be held October 27-30 at the Marriott Crystal Gateway in Arlington, Virginia.

Because of the Institute's quality, national reputation and limited space, it is imperative that you register as soon as registration opens this summer. All scholars will receive a mailing about the Institute in July.

The 12th Annual Institute will feature the largest gathering of minority Ph.D. scholars in America. Recruiters will be on hand to identify potential faculty members.

Program Information for Current Scholars and Graduates

Listed below is important information about program benefits and services you can receive as a lifetime member of the SREB-State Doctoral Scholars Program. Once selected as a scholar, you are always considered a member of our program.

SERVICES AVAILABLE FOR ALL SCHOLARS

▶▶ Scholar Profile Listing in the online Scholar Directory

The online Scholar Directory allows you to update your personal and academic information and upload your curriculum vitae. You can use the directory to seek out scholars with similar interests, locate fellow alumni or find students who have attended or are employed at specific institutions.

The directory is marketed to universities, colleges and research groups that are seeking to diversify their faculty, staff and postdoctoral appointments. Only paid subscribers and scholars have access to this exclusive directory. For those scholars seeking employment and research opportunities, keeping your information up to date is a priority. Go to www.sreb.org and select Doctoral Scholars and then Scholar Directory to access and update your file.

▶▶ The Scholar Zone - Online Support Discussion Board

The scholar support discussion board is an interactive bulletin board where scholars and graduates can come for advice, networking and professional communications with other doctoral scholars. The discussion board will include the following forum topics: tips and advice for first-year, middle-year and all-but-dissertation (ABD) scholars; tips and advice for the dissertation-writing years; advice on career development; and advice on personal and family life during graduate school.

▶▶ Counseling and Advocacy Services

We are ready to act as your advocate and source of counsel throughout your program and on your pathway to the professoriate. We have a counselor on staff to assist you with personal, professional and job-search issues, so do not hesitate to contact us.

▶▶ Program Communications

By keeping your information updated in the online Scholar Directory you receive program mailings, announcements, e-mail messages, publications and other communications. Please send us information about your progress, research presentations, professional recognitions or anything you'd like to have included in future issues of our newsletter.

▶▶ Annual Invitation to the Institute on Teaching and Mentoring

Your participation in the annual Institute is invited and encouraged. To the degree our budget will allow, the SREB-State Doctoral Scholars Program may be able to assist you with expenses to attend future Institutes after your active funding has ended. This year the 12th Annual Institute on Teaching and Mentoring will be in Arlington, Virginia at the Marriott Crystal Gateway on October 27-30, 2005. For highlights from the 2004 Institute in Atlanta see page two of this newsletter.

JUST FOR GRADUATES

▶▶ Membership in the DSA

You are now a lifetime member of the Doctoral Scholars Association. This group strengthens and expands on scholar connections and networking throughout your degree program and into your professional career.

▶▶ Online Job Posting Service

Institutions may post openings free of charge on our online job-posting service. Please urge your institution to participate in this service and to post open positions regularly. Don't forget about using the Scholar Directory to notify colleagues of openings at your institution or to search for potential candidates to fill vacancies in your area. Don't forget to check this online job-posting service for opportunities in your area of specialty. Go to www.sreb.org and select the link for Doctoral Scholars.

ATTENTION CURRENT SCHOLARS

Don't forget that you are required to submit to us a grade report or progress report each semester.



Remember - you can always call us toll free

1-877-SREBPHD (877-773-2743)

Check out the new Doctoral Scholars Program website!

For those of you who are frequent visitors to the SREB website you may have noticed some major changes to the Doctoral Scholars Program website. We now have a new “**Scholar Zone**” that houses all information for current scholars and program graduates!

Special thanks to **Trakia Walker** who breathed new life into the website, which had retained the original design since its inception. The newly redesigned site allows scholars to easily navigate to find the things that are important to them - the scholar directory, job search sites, forms and much more. There are even new scholar support discussion boards that allow scholars to post questions on topics related to their area of study. Visit our website today and be sure to send us your comments!



We encourage you to email us with any thoughts or suggestions you have regarding the new site.

Please send them to doctoral.scholars@sreb.org.

Meet the SREB-State Doctoral Scholars Program Team

The SREB-State Doctoral Scholars Program has been making changes over the past two years, including adding new staff, in an effort to provide you with better program services. Here is a brief introduction to our new team:

Trakia Walker joined the team in July 2003 as the new Institute and Grants Coordinator. Many of you met Trakia at the last two Institutes on Teaching and Mentoring in Miami and Atlanta. She is responsible for logistical planning for the annual Institute and the administration of several grants.

Robbie Ouzts joined the team in September 2003 as the new Scholar Services Coordinator. Robbie’s focus has been getting our scholar services organized in addition to working with state representatives on issues related to scholar services. She is also a licensed career counselor and is available at any time to speak with scholars.

Melissa Koran joined the team in October 2003 as the Program Accounting Assistant. She is responsible for all program accounting, fellowship disbursements, and database management.

We still have some very familiar faces around here to assist you:

Ansley Abraham has been at SREB since 1985 and has been director of this program since its inception in 1993. Dr. Abraham continues to maintain his hands-on approach to successfully running this program and is always available for scholars.

Bob Belle serves as the SREB-AGEP Director. He joined the staff in 2002 to direct the National Science Foundation’s Alliance for Graduate Education and the Professoriate (AGEP) program. This partnership provides hundreds of scholars and faculty the opportunity to participate in the annual Institute.

Walt Jacobs has been a consultant to the program for almost a decade now. His services include planning and coordinating the program for the Annual Institute on Teaching and Mentoring as well as serving as a contributing writer for program publications.

SCHOLAR RESPONSIBILITIES

- ✓ Update and keep your online Scholar Directory listing current.
- ✓ Notify the Doctoral Scholars Program immediately regarding any change in contact information, enrollment, employment or scholar status.
- ✓ Send in a grade report or dissertation progress report each semester.
- ✓ Maintain full-time enrollment for all semesters while being actively funded.
- ✓ Attend the Annual Institute on Teaching and Mentoring each fall.
- ✓ Get your Ph.D. and join the professoriate!

SREB Scholars and Faculty at the 2004 Institute in Atlanta



DOCTORAL SCHOLARS PROGRAM PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



The SREB-State Doctoral Scholars Program has set aside a special fund to encourage research activities and further scholars' professional development as doctoral candidates. Early practice in standing before professional peers to describe and articulate investigations in an academic discipline contributes to the scholar's skills and abilities as a future college faculty member. All actively funded SREB-State Doctoral Scholars program participants are eligible to submit a request for funds.

A request **must** be submitted at least 30 days prior to the event at which you will present. We cannot issue professional development funds if this is not done in advance. We also cannot pre-approve any request without written documentation of your participation in the event.

Once you have been pre-approved for professional development funding, you must then follow-up within 30 days with a completed form and original receipts. Failure to do so will result in non-payment of your expenses. Professional development funds are distributed once per month. For more complete information on professional development, visit the website and look in the "Forms" section. There you can download all of the forms you need. If you have specific questions, please call Robbie Ouzts, Scholar Coordinator toll free at 1-877-773-2743.

Here is a small representation of where scholars have been presenting their research...

- ✓ **Charlotte Butler** from the University of Arkansas presented at the 5th Clinical Team Conference on Hospice and Palliative Care
- ✓ **Simone Drake** from the University of Maryland, College Park presented at the American Literature Association
- ✓ **Lorrie Frasure** from the University of Maryland, College Park presented at the National Conference of Black Political Scientists
- ✓ **Christina Grange** from Virginia Commonwealth University presented at the Annu NIMH International Research Conference and at the Association of Black Psychologists Annual Conference
- ✓ **Wanda Hunter** from Southern Illinois University presented at the North Central Serological Association
- ✓ **Angela Jackson** from Virginia Commonwealth University presented at the Virginia Counselor's Association
- ✓ **Judy Jeng** from Rutgers University presented at the ACM/IEEE Joint Conference on Digital Libraries
- ✓ **Noelle Lee** from West Virginia University presented at the Midwest Political Science Association
- ✓ **Tina Lee** from the University of Southern Mississippi presented at the Southern Criminal Justice Association
- ✓ **Joe Lott** from Louisiana State University presented at the American Educational Research Association (AERA)
- ✓ **Chaun Stores** from West Virginia University presented at the Midwest Political Science Association
- ✓ **Debra Strother** from the University of Kentucky presented at the Southern Gerontological Society
- ✓ **Cicely Washington** from Virginia Tech presented at the 22nd Southern Biomedical Engineering Society Conference



WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE DOCTORAL SCHOLARS ASSOCIATION?

The SREB Doctoral Scholars Association (DSA) exists to provide a forum for its members to address the important issues of the SREB-State Doctoral Scholars Program as it, in turn, operates within the SREB. Some of the things the DSA works to achieve include: Creating an official channel through which scholars and program alumni may express opinions and concerns; Promoting the professional development of scholars and program alumni through the generation of additional funds for these activities and; Promoting networking and support activities among scholars and program alumni.

The DSA is currently making changes and seeking new leaders for its Advisory Board. For more information regarding the SREB-State DSP Association visit the Doctoral Scholars Program website at www.sreb.org.

We extend a special "Thank You" to the following recent contributors:

**Ansley Abraham
Brenda Allen
Precilla Belin
Arsenio Caceres
Betty Chapman
Lynne Gibson-Glieber
Jill Hough
Rana Johnson
Paul Mohr
Sonya Yvette Murphy
Jennifer Park-Jadotte
Katherine Perez-Rivera
Paul Shipman
Valeria Shipp**

SCHOLAR NEWS & NOTES

Remember to contact us with items to include in this section. We are looking for employment announcements, grant awards, community service awards, faculty accomplishments, travel abroad, special research, appointments to boards or commissions, etc. We are happy to try and publish photographs if they are submitted.

- 📄 At the Jefferson State Community College recent honors convocation, **Dr. Samuel Jones (University of Alabama, Educational Psychology)**, a 2002 Alabama program graduate, received the 2004 Most Outstanding Faculty Member Award. Dr. Jones is the first minority to ever receive this prestigious award. Congratulations Dr. Jones!
- 📄 Congratulations to graduate **Dr. Selina Vasquez (University of Texas, Mathematics Education)** who married James C. Mireles on December 18th in Texas.
- 📄 Our own **Dr. Walter Swan (University of Mississippi, Vocal Performance)** has just released a new compact disc titled "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands" available. Contact Dr. Swan via email at wswan@odu.edu to order a copy.
- 📄 Don't forget to view a copy of our new publication "**Milestone Graduates... 200 and Counting**" to read about the second group of 100 program graduates. It can be found online at www.sreb.org

SREB-State Doctoral Scholars Graduates join SREB Board Members for their Annual Meeting



From left to right: Dr. Sameep Maniar, Dr. Brenda Hosley, Dr. Javiette Samuel, Dr. LaTonya Clay, Dr. Vendetta Knight, Dr. Felicia Taylor, Dr. Pamela Martin, Dr. Sherry Scott, Dr. Abraham, and Dr. Brenda Allen.

The SREB Board recently had the opportunity to honor several Doctoral Scholars Program graduates and to celebrate the program reaching the milestone 200th graduate.

A small group of program graduates were invited to a special luncheon during the July board meeting to meet with board members and state leaders to discuss the program and its impact on higher education in their state. Dr. Abraham and other team members also joined in the event.

HOT OFF THE PRESS

Here is a look at recent publications released by the SREB-State Doctoral Scholars Program. All of these publications can be accessed online. Visit the Doctoral Scholars Program section at www.sreb.org and select the option for publications.

- 📄 "**Milestone Graduates - 200 and Counting**". This publication lists and highlights the second 100 graduates from the Doctoral Scholars Program. It also provides a list of program milestones and successes. Published in the summer of 2004.
- 📄 "**A Decade, A Difference... But Still Far to Go**". This publication offers a detailed timeline of events related to the inception and growth of the Doctoral Scholars Program. It features a large amount of program data and statistics as well as quotes from program graduates. Published in the fall of 2003.

The following program publications are still available online as well:

- 📄 "**Milestone Graduates - the First 100**". Published in 2001.
- 📄 "**More than a Check and a Handshake**". Published in 2001.
- 📄 "**Diversity in College Faculty**". Published in 1999.

Several new publications are in the works so keep checking our website.

HOT OFF THE WEB

Don't forget to take some time to visit the newly renovated Doctoral Scholars Program website. More detailed information about our upgrade and the new options available can be found on page 4 of this newsletter.

