



**SREB-STATE
DOCTORAL
SCHOLARS
PROGRAM**

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The SREB-State Doctoral Scholars Program presents

The Doctoral Chat

April 2013

DIRECTOR'S CHAIR



Dr. Ansley Abraham
Director,
Doctoral Scholars Program

I hope the spring finds everyone well and enjoying the warmer weather. Some updates for you all: In the May 2012 newsletter I mentioned we had a promotional video about our program on our website. I hope by now you've had a chance to view it and have shared it with your family, friends and colleagues — if not, there's no time like the

present. The Doctoral Scholars Program (DSP) is pleased to announce the upcoming release of another promotional video. This video will have as its focus the annual Institute on Teaching and Mentoring, which is hosted by SREB.

In speaking with some of the recent completers and program graduates in the past months, I have been reminding everyone about the importance of giving back to the program that gave to you. To those who have responded, THANK YOU! Many of you had the opportunity to use professional development funds during your matriculation through the program. These funds, unfortunately, are diminishing. We do not get money from states to support this fund. Therefore, I want to challenge all of you, especially you program graduates, to **participate in the "Giving Back Campaign"** right now. Please do not put it off. It is an important mark of your success and professionalism. Everyone always asks me, "What can I do to help?" Well, this is it!

The current amount in the "Giving Back" fund is \$30,748. We had a goal of \$50,000. We want to keep that goal, but there is now a new wrinkle. There is now a way for us to skyrocket this fund to a total of **\$100,000!** For this to happen, we have to raise \$50,000 in order to receive a \$50,000 match. To make this match even more attractive, we can build upon the \$30,748 already collected in the "Giving Back Campaign." This means we only need to raise \$19,252 to generate \$100,000 in Professional Development funds. The only stipulation is that we must raise these funds by April 1, 2014.

This is a deal we cannot afford to pass up! So, I am asking— no, **challenging** — all of you to contribute— and **DO IT TODAY!** Think seriously about the amount you can give and please contact your family, friends, colleagues, etc., who are aware of the value of this program.) Remember, all donations are tax-deductible —



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and with more than 650 graduates, the amount we desperately need is less than \$100 per graduate. Let's ensure that future DSP scholars have the same opportunity that you did to grow and mature as they pursue their Ph.D.s.

Thank you again to those who have already given to this unique opportunity for our program. These monies go directly to scholars. Please take a moment and click on the link for the "Giving Back Campaign" to learn more: <http://www.sreb.org/page/1492/contributions.html>.

As you all know, our annual Institute on Teaching and Mentoring is approaching this October. This year is

the 20th anniversary of this gathering, which is now the nation's largest gathering of underrepresented minority Ph.D. scholars in the nation. As always, all of our scholars and program graduates are invited to attend.

The 2013-2014 Fellowship Award applications have been pouring into the office. The deadline to apply was April 1. Most SREB states will hold firm on their support, while some states are feeling the budget cuts. We hope to add about 60 new fellows to the program.

Analey A. Abraham

HIGHLIGHTING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE DSP

As you read in the last edition of The Doctoral Chat, the Doctoral Scholars Program has released a promotional video. The video is featured on our website here: http://www.sreb.org/page/1074/doctoral_scholars.html. It highlights the achievements of the DSP and showcases the benefits through interviews with program graduates. Please take a look — and share the video with your family, friends and university community.



STAY CONNECTED

As always, we encourage you and all program graduates and current scholars to keep us informed of recent changes in your life and career. The best way to do so is by updating your Online Scholar Directory profile. This will help keep us in the loop with your current information, since it is linked directly to our database. We recently updated the Directory to increase the functionality. You login with your email, and your password is the SREB ID. If you cannot remember these credentials or have problems logging in, contact Nicole Schimmel at Nicole.Schimmel@sreb.org. As always, if you have updates, contact Tammy Wright at Tammy.Wright@sreb.org.

FIND US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



The DSP is increasing our social media presence. We now have over 100 "likes" on Facebook, and we created a hashtag for this year's Institute — #Compact2013. If you haven't done so already, find us on Facebook. Search for the Doctoral Scholars page. On Twitter, we are @SREBDocSch. Look for the sunburst.

IMPORTANT THINGS FOR CURRENT SCHOLARS TO REMEMBER

Scholar Responsibilities

- Notify the Doctoral Scholars Program *immediately* regarding any change in contact information, enrollment, employment or academic status. E-mail Tammy Wright at tammy.wright@sreb.org.
- Send in a grade report or dissertation progress report each semester to Tammy Wright.
- Maintain full-time enrollment for ALL semesters while being actively funded.
- Attend the annual Institute on Teaching and Mentoring each fall. If you have any questions, e-mail Nicole Schimmel at nicole.schimmel@sreb.org
- Get your Ph.D. and join the professoriate!

REMEMBER, SCHOLARS:

Update and keep your online Scholar Directory listing current. To access the Scholar Directory, the Scholar Support Discussion Board and other great things to help you on your journey, go to www.sreb.org and click on the Doctoral Scholars link under “Programs.”

Other Guidelines

- You **MUST** advise SREB if you are not a full-time student. Also notify SREB if you are doing an audit, independent study or research hours.
- You **MUST NOT** be employed under any circumstances outside the department, part time or full time, without notifying SREB. Any employment in the department must be reported and approved.
- You **MUST** report any additional funds earned while receiving program support, including scholarships, fellowships, assistantships, grants or other monies, regardless of when you receive the funds.

****Grades and Dissertation Updates****

This is just a reminder that grades are due each term. In the last newsletter, we advised all scholars that only two e-mail requests for grades and dissertation updates will be sent before stipends are withheld.

- Grades should be e-mailed each term.
- Grades should include your term GPA and overall GPA.
- If you take research hours or dissertation hours that are pass/fail, you must send a short narrative.
- Dissertation scholars should submit a short narrative outlining your progress this term and plans for the next term. Any hardships or breakthroughs, presentations, etc., that are noteworthy also should be included. Please include your anticipated final defense date in your narrative.

Remember that when you defend your dissertation and the committee signs off, we consider you a program graduate. We understand that sometimes the committee will sign off even with changes to be made ... but if you get the signatures, we consider you a completer. Please contact SREB as soon as you defend or have a scheduled date. This is very important as we keep a calendar, and your specific defense date and time are posted on this calendar. This allows us to track your progress, and it is very exciting for us to see the calendar covered with defense dates.

We are happy to report that approximately 300 potential applicants have logged in to our online application center. Early each spring semester in January, please refer new qualified candidates to apply for our doctoral scholars fellowship, awarded at the beginning of each fall semester. We expect to see all new scholars at this year's Institute!

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 19TH ANNUAL INSTITUTE



The 2012 Institute on Teaching and Mentoring again proved to be the largest gathering of minority doctoral Ph.D. students in the nation, with 1,070 attendees (1,178 registered). The Institute was held in Tampa, Florida, last October 25-28. For a recap of last year's highlights on social media, search the hashtag #Compact2012.



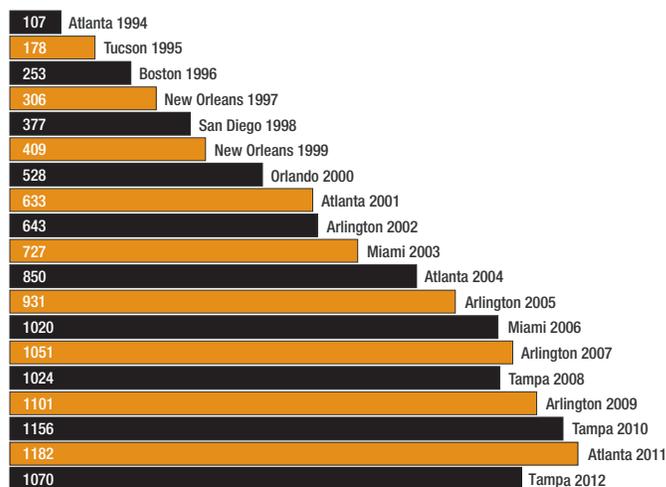
Participants at the Institute were as follows: 204 SREB-State Doctoral



Scholars Program scholars and 33 faculty mentors; 162 AGEP/SBE doctoral scholars; 55 Junior Faculty participants; 52 McNair scholars; 155 Sloan scholars; 74 Gates Millennium scholars; and 58 Bridges scholars; plus 63 presenters, 144 recruiters, 71 guests and 15 staff.

The event offered more than 55 breakout and plenary sessions, and it introduced a new evaluation system of Scantron forms. Overall, the Institute was ranked a 3.8 on a 4.0 Likert scale.

Institute on Teaching and Mentoring 19-Year Attendance Chart



To view presenter handouts from the 2012 Institute, please visit the Institute on Teaching and Mentoring site here: www.InstituteOnTeachingandMentoring.org. Pictures also have been uploaded to our Facebook page.

SAVE THE DATE!!!

Join us this fall for the 20th annual Institute in Arlington, Virginia, at the Crystal Gateway Marriott. Save the dates: October 31-November 3, 2013. If you have any questions, please email Tammy Wright at Tammy.Wright@sreb.org.



INSTITUTE COMMENTS

"The conference was great, the banquet, the workshops, but I wanted to add that it was the one-on-one personal moments that might be taken for granted. That really helped and encouraged me to persevere."

— McNair scholar

"The Institute continues to provide the information, inspiration and networking that assure me of my ability to complete the Ph.D. journey."

— Indiana scholar

"This is my first time attending the conference, and it has been so encouraging to me as I continue pursuing my Ph.D. The recruiters, speakers, students, networking and sessions have all been beneficial and informative."

— Sloan scholar

CONGRATULATIONS

Dr. Soria Colomer was awarded membership to the Bilingual Education Research SIG (Special interest Group) at the University of South Florida in Tampa for her dissertation. Dr. Colomer's dissertation is "Latina Teachers' Ethnolinguistic Identities, Sociocultural Roles, and the Possibility of Culturally Responsive Practices."

Dr. Deacue Fields was promoted to full professor at Auburn University in Auburn, Alabama. He is now a full professor and Extension economist.

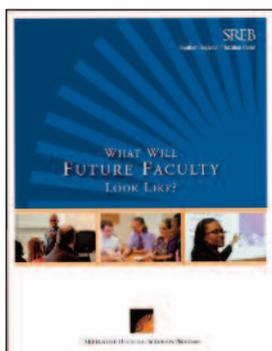
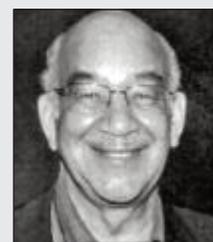
Dr. Preston McKeever-Floyd has agreed to serve as chair of the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies. Dr. McKeever-Floyd is currently an associate professor at Coastal Carolina University in Conway, South Carolina.

Dr. Noelle Hunter joined Maysville Community and Technical College in Maysville, Kentucky. Hunter is an instructor of reading and writing.

Two of our West Virginia Scholars bested 83 teams to win the 2012 Department of Defense Cyber Crime Center Digital Forensics Challenge. **Jarilyn Hernandez-Jimenez** and **Raymond Borges Hink** competed with other students from West Virginia University in Morgantown and a student from the University of South Alabama, Mobile, in this competition. "This annual online competition serves as a call to the digital forensics community to cultivate new cyber professionals and pioneer new investigative tools, techniques and methods," according to the WVU University Relations website.

IN MEMORIAM

Adolphus Toliver, also known as "Tol," was a longtime Institute presenter and a friend of the DSP. He passed away recently at the age of 81. Tol was chief of the Minority Access to Research Careers (MARC) with the National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS). He presented at the Institute for a decade.



CAREER NEWS

We are quickly approaching 700 program graduates. There are currently over 643 graduates. Last summer we produced a publication highlighting graduates 530-600 titled "What Will Future Faculty Look Like?" This publication profiled three program graduates who are now teaching at the university level. While we could not profile all of our graduates, we are so proud of all of you! The publication can be viewed on our website as well.

Please don't forget to submit your accomplishments, publications, personal milestones, etc., to nicole.schimmel@sreb.org.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

The DSP's Regional Advisory Committee met on January 31-February 1, 2013, at the Renaissance Concourse Hotel in Atlanta, Georgia. The committee is comprised of representatives from each of the participating states in the program. The committee provided updates on each state's policies and issues that impact the program. Dr. Abraham provided information on the status of the program, including financial data, the new electronic profile reports, the new online directory, AGEP and Sloan grant reports, the Junior Faculty Conference and the 2012 Institute.



Representatives attending the meeting and pictured here with SREB staff were (Front row, left-right): Paul Mohr, director of Special Programs, Alabama Commission on Higher Education; Tammy Wright, accounting assistant, DSP; Zebulun Davenport, vice chancellor for Student Life, IUPUI; Rana Johnson, chief diversity officer, Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education; Donald Cole, assistant provost and assistant chancellor of Multicultural Affairs, University of Mississippi; (Second row) William Arnold, director of Access, Diversity and Equity, Tennessee Board of Regents; Nicole Schimmel, administrative assistant, DSP; Daniel Crockett, director of Student and Educational Services, West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission; Joan Lord, vice president, Education Policies, SREB; Walt Jacobs, senior consultant, DSP; Kerry Davidson, deputy commissioner for Sponsored Programs, Louisiana Board of Regents; (Third row) Pearl Pennington, director of Student Affairs, Mississippi State Institutions of Higher Learning; Rebecca Talley, special guest; Ansley Abraham, director, DSP. Not pictured are Marie Hamilton, assistant dean, Louisiana State University; Betty Dandridge Johnson, assistant executive director for Academic Affairs, Tennessee Higher Education Commission; Lee Andes, assistant director for Financial Aid, State Council of Higher Education for Virginia; and Bob Belle, AGEP director, DSP.