The Promise of Leadership

Celebrating the First 100 PhDs

Leadership

JULY 25-27, 2008

The Leadership Alliance Symposium 2008
The Marriott Hartford Downtown/Connecticut Convention Center
Hartford, Connecticut
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July 26, 2008

Dear Member of the Leadership Alliance Network,

This is a remarkable moment in the history of the Leadership Alliance, from the celebration of the accomplishments of the Leadership Alliance to its more than 100 alumni who have received doctoral degrees. I extend my heartiest congratulations to the doctoral scholars!

The founders of the Leadership Alliance were motivated by their belief that talent resides in individuals from a range of backgrounds and that investments in their development would yield leaders who reflect the dynamism that diversity brings to every endeavor. Your collective achievements attest to the power of that belief. The variety of your origins, your disciplinary expertise, and your career engagements signal an advance in our goal to utilize the talent and strength of individuals from all backgrounds in promoting a truly inclusive workforce. Therefore, I commend your achievements and look forward to hearing more about your progress throughout your careers.

This is also an opportune moment for all who are assembled at the symposium to rededicate yourselves to the purpose of the Alliance – to diversify the ranks of leaders for the 21st century. Each of the doctoral scholars who are being honored today can accelerate this process. Please use this occasion, and others like it, to resolve anew to continue your academic journey and fulfill your own promise of leadership.

I extend my greetings and best wishes to you for a splendid conference.

Sincerely,

Ruth J. Simmons
July 26, 2008

Dear Leadership Alliance Doctoral Scholars,

On behalf of the Institutional Coordinators, Program Administrators and the Executive Office team, we take great pride in commending you – our Leadership Alliance Doctoral Scholars!

The shared vision of the Leadership Alliance, to promote the entry of underrepresented students into graduate training leading to research doctoral degrees, is being fulfilled. As you complete your training, you have now become a more representative cohort of scholars and leaders for the future. And as you launch your careers along a multitude of paths in the academic, public, and private sectors, you continue to set an outstanding example for others to follow.

As former President Kennedy said, “It is a time for a new generation of leadership, to cope with the new problems and new opportunities.” You are an important part of the next generation that will shape new knowledge and create scholarship for the world. The Leadership Alliance is very proud to have been an integral part of your academic development.

We urge that you stay committed to realizing your individual goals. We also urge you to cultivate a culture of leadership that will inspire successive generations of students, both inside the Leadership Alliance network and in the larger world, to flourish.

Congratulations and best wishes always!

Sincerely,

Valerie Petit Wilson
ORIGINS OF THE LEADERSHIP ALLIANCE

In the winter of 1990, Brown University President Vartan Gregorian wrote to his fellow Ivy League Presidents to propose that the eight institutions cooperate to address minority underrepresentation in the academy at the graduate school and faculty levels. After the Council of Ivy League Presidents approved this proposal in the summer of 1991, Gregorian asked Brown University Associate Provost James Wyche to create the consortium that became the Leadership Alliance. “The Ivy League needs to cooperate more, especially in the area of minority student recruitment for graduate school,” Gregorian stated. “Consortium efforts such as the Leadership Alliance are not easy, but they are essential because the need is so urgent.”

The Leadership Alliance began with twenty-three founding institutions, representing an innovative collaboration among research universities and minority serving institutions, whose mission is to develop underrepresented students into outstanding leaders and role models in academia, business, and the public sector.

CORE ACTIVITIES OF THE LEADERSHIP ALLIANCE

The distinctive feature of the Leadership Alliance is its core activity – mentoring across each critical transition along the academic pathway. The Summer Research Early Identification Program (SR-EIP), established in 1993, combined with the Leadership Alliance National Symposium (LANS), in 1995, is a structured program of research, networking, and mentoring that prepares young scholars from underrepresented and underserved populations for graduate training. Together the SR-EIP and LANS provide an integrated exposure to research and academic careers in a supportive, mentoring environment. Over time, the Alliance developed graduate and postdoctoral initiatives to assist its alumni at successive steps along the academic pathway. At the LANS, graduate students participate in workshops to aid in scientific communication, graduate career management, and post-PhD decision-making. In 2004, the networking activity was enhanced by an annual “Emerging PhDs Yearbook” which provides a brief resume of Alliance doctoral candidates to facilitate postdoctoral appointments. The “Yearbook” is distributed among the Alliance network, graduate deans of the consortium, and other research institutions. Evaluation has also been an integral component in the Alliance programs. Since 1999, the Alliance has retained a team of consultants to conduct an annual assessment of the Leadership Alliance’s operational and programmatic effectiveness in improving the representation of underrepresented students in graduate education programs.

ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERSHIP

Though the individuals representing the institutions have changed over the years, the core principles and commitment to the partnership have been lasting. Each institution is represented by senior administrators and faculty who meet twice yearly to develop the policy and programs of the Leadership Alliance. In 1992, Dr. James Wyche became the first Executive Director of the Leadership Alliance. In 2001 Dr. Ruth Simmons became the 18th president of Brown University; within months of her appointment, President Simmons affirmed Brown’s support for the Leadership Alliance. Later, Dr. Michael Plater, Associate Dean of the Graduate School at Brown University, served as the Interim Director for more than a year upon Wyche’s departure in 2002. In 2003, Brown recruited Dr. Valerie Wilson to become the Executive Director of the Leadership Alliance. Therefore, the Alliance continues to benefit from the leadership of its member institution presidents, its outstanding Institutional Coordinators and the Leadership Alliance Executive Directors.

1992 Leadership Alliance was created
1993 SR-EIP was launched
1995 First National Symposium
1997 Leadership Alliance website launched
2000 First two PhD’s produced
Reaffirming the Mission of the Leadership Alliance

To re-articulate the Alliance’s role in the evolving academic environment, in 2005 President Simmons invited all member presidents to the Alliance’s first Presidential Forum. In her invitation, Simmons wrote: “More than a decade ago, a core of universities created the Leadership Alliance to promote the entry of underrepresented students into graduate training. Since that time, the Leadership Alliance has expanded its mission to assist in the development of outstanding faculty for the professoriate. The vision that built this consortium is beginning to fulfill its promise as the number of scholars increases and the campus programs mature. It is appropriate for the presidents to reconvene to reflect on our progress, examine the challenges that lie ahead, and renew our commitment to the Alliance.” The forum was important because twenty-five of the Alliance presidents were new to their institutions since the Alliance’s inception. The presidents validated that the principal value of the Alliance is the infrastructure for collaboration across institutions, and that the collaboration to address diversity issues is just as important in the present day as it was in the early 1990s.

Leadership Alliance: An Educational Policy Think Tank

Following the Presidential Forum, the Institutional Coordinators used their biannual gatherings as a ‘think tank’ to translate the presidents’ recommendations into program priorities and identify best practices. For example, the group re-examined its metrics to assess short-term outcomes and long-term goals and conversed with other model programs of a similar nature about their collective outcomes. At subsequent sessions, the role of the Alliance in transforming institutional culture for diversity was examined. Further sessions examined the Alliance’s support of developing scholars in various disciplines, such as the humanities and social sciences, with an eye toward enhancing program effectiveness. In the mid-2000s, the Alliance continued its institutional expansion, growing to thirty-three institutions. In light of this institutional growth, the Alliance has also focused on the appropriate size and structure of the Alliance. Such wide ranging and important discussions continue to be a value-added benefit for Alliance members.

The Next Horizon

By 2007, the Alliance reached the extraordinary milestone of more than 100 SR-EIP alumni who obtained a PhD or MD/PhD. The increasing numbers of Leadership Alliance scholars along the training pathway are a valuable source of highly qualified applicants for nationally competitive positions. These scholars represent ‘the best and the brightest,’ and they are beginning to increase the capacity to encourage the next generation of students in higher education. The Alliance will continue its role in identifying and nurturing talented undergraduates to seek competitive research training opportunities. Now, however, the Alliance has many within the ranks of our first 100+ PhD and MD/PhDs to assist in fulfilling our promise of leadership in developing the research workforce of tomorrow.
Our diverse Doctoral Scholars...

Predominantly from Underrepresented Populations

- Hispanic: 35%
- African American: 56%
- Other: 9%
- Multi-racial: 3%
- Unknown: 3%
- Asian: 1%
- Pacific Islander: 2%

Women Doctoral Scholars in All Academic Disciplines

- Biological Sciences: 17%
- Physical Sciences: 10%
- Social Sciences: 23%
- Humanities: 13%

55% RECEIVED AN UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE FROM A MINORITY-SERVING INSTITUTION

...to populate the academy...

44 THE NUMBER OF DOCTORAL SCHOLARS IN FACULTY POSITIONS

17 THE NUMBER OF DOCTORAL SCHOLARS WITH FACULTY POSITIONS AT LEADERSHIP ALLIANCE INSTITUTIONS

Faculty Positions Held at All Institutional Types

- Baccalaureate
- Masters
- Doctoral
- Research Intensive

- National data from The Survey of Earned Doctorates National Science Foundation, 2007
...are prepared by competitive training programs...

64% THE NUMBER OF INSTITUTIONS FROM WHICH THE SCHOLARS RECEIVED THEIR DOCTORAL DEGREES

42% RECEIVED DEGREES FROM LEADERSHIP ALLIANCE INSTITUTIONS

...and contribute to the public and private sectors.

33% THE NUMBER OF DOCTORAL SCHOLARS IN THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS

100% MD/PHDs SOUGHT MEDICAL RESIDENCY TRAINING AFTER DEGREE COMPLETION

Time to Degree Less than National Averages

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Leadership Alliance</th>
<th>National Average</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Biological Sciences</td>
<td>6.2</td>
<td>6.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MD/PhD</td>
<td>7.1</td>
<td>8.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Sciences</td>
<td>8.5</td>
<td>8.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Sciences</td>
<td>6.2</td>
<td>6.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humanities</td>
<td>6.9</td>
<td>9.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Postdoctoral Study at Higher than National Averages

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Leadership Alliance</th>
<th>National Average</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Humanities</td>
<td>3.9%</td>
<td>26.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Sciences</td>
<td>14.8%</td>
<td>26.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Sciences</td>
<td>23.5%</td>
<td>38.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biological Sciences</td>
<td>36.7%</td>
<td>38.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Public and Private Sector Placements

- Government Research: 35%
- Government: 16%
- Industry Research: 10%
- Science and Tech Analysts: 13%
- Private Sector: 26%
Summer Research Early Identification Program

Our flagship program, the Summer Research Early Identification Program (SR-EIP), focuses on introducing undergraduate students to the world of academic careers by real-world research experiences at competitive research institutions that are a part of the Leadership Alliance. Since its launch in 1993, more than 2000 undergraduate students have participated in the program.

There are four distinct components that promote success:

- **Research Experiences** for eight to ten weeks on the campus of Alliance research partners that expand students’ fundamental knowledge.
- **Access to Faculty Mentors and Role Models** who provide insights into their academic disciplines and an academic career.
- **Skills Training** in techniques, methods, communication, and professional development emphasized.
- **Peer Networking** designed to facilitate the formation of trusted collegial interactions during the summer research experience at each institution that are enhanced at the national symposium and persist beyond these programs.

Disciplines of SR-EIP Students 1993–2007

- **Biological Sciences** 50%
- **Social Sciences** 8%
- **Psychology** 11%
- **Physical Sciences** 13%
- **Engineering** 6%
- **Humanities** 12%

Leadership Alliance National Symposium

Since 1995, the Leadership Alliance National Symposium (LANS) has been the common meeting place for Alliance-affiliated undergraduates, graduate students, and faculty/administrators.

- **Presentation Experience for All Undergraduates.** Each student has the opportunity to make a presentation at the symposium. Students return to their home institutions with actual presentation experience and are thus prepared to participate more fully in subsequent presentation venues and conferences.
- **Professional Development Mentoring.** The LANS hosts a series of workshops that promotes understanding of academic professional opportunities along with other critical networking, career-building, and mentoring opportunities.
- **Bridging to the Next Level.** The graduate recruiting fair at the LANS gives students the chance to network with academic recruiters from Alliance institutions.
- ** Provision of Underrepresented Role Models.** The LANS provides role models for various constituencies at the symposium. The most consistently well-received feature of the symposium is the panel of graduate students who discuss their personal journeys through graduate school.
1. Marcel Agüeros, PhD
BA, 1996, Columbia University; PhD, 2006, University of Washington.
"Candidate isolated neutron stars and other stellar X-ray sources from the ROSAT All-Sky and Sloan Digital Sky Surveys."

2. Adriana Alejandro-Osorio, PhD
BS, 2000, University of Puerto Rico-Rio Piedras; PhD, 2007, University of Wisconsin Madison.
“The role of the histone deacetylase Rpd3p in the regulation of the environmental stress response in Saccharomyces cerevisiae.”

3. Kimberly Anderson, PhD
BS, 1997, Xavier University of Louisiana; PhD, 2004, Tulane University.
“Isolation, cloning, and characterization of a novel blood group A- and B-cleaving endo-beta-galactosidase (Endo-beta-GalAB).”

4. Deidre Anglin, PhD
BS, 1997, Cornell University; PhD, 2003, Fordham University.
“The predictive effects of racial socialization, racial identity, and African self-consciousness on African American college adjustment and psychological defenses.”

5. Elva Arredondo, PhD
BA, 1996, University of Washington; PhD, 2004, Duke University.
“Evaluating a stage model in predicting Latinas’ cervical cancer screening practices: The role of psychosocial and cultural predictors.”

6. Edwina Ashie-Nikoi, PhD
BA, 2000, Spelman College; PhD, 2007, New York University.
“Ritual, memory, and the reconstruction of African diasporan histories: Carriacou’s big drum as a case study, 1750-1920.”

7. Krishna Asundi, PhD
BS, 1999, University of Puerto Rico -Mayaguez; PhD, 2006, UC Berkeley.
“Modulation of gene expression in response to mechanical load in rabbit flexor tendons.”

8. Jaime Maldonado-Aviles, PhD
BS, 2001, University of Puerto Rico -Rio Piedras; PhD, 2008 University of Pittsburgh.
“Altered markers of tonic inhibition in the dorsolateral prefrontal cortex of subjects with schizophrenia.”

9. Sharlene Beckford, PhD
BS, 1997, Cornell University; PhD, 2003, University of Massachusetts-Amherst.
“Relations among psychosocial risk factors, coping behaviors, and depression symptoms in late adolescent West Indian girls.”

10. Frederick Biga, PhD
BS, 2003, Florida A&M University; PhD, 2007, Brown University.
“Flexible conductors for display applications.”

11. Traci Burch, PhD
AB, 2002, Princeton University; PhD, 2007 Harvard University.
“Punishment and participation: How criminal convictions threaten American democracy.”

12. Maurice Butler, PhD
BS, 2000, University of Maryland, Baltimore County; PhD, 2008, Harvard University.
“Negative regulation of RNA interference in Caenorhabditis elegans.”

13. David Camarillo, PhD
BS, 2001, Princeton; PhD, 2008 Stanford University.
“Mechanics and Control of Tendon Driven Continuum Manipulators.”

14. William Carr, PhD
BS, 1996, Morehouse College; PhD, 2007, Fordham University.
“Prediction of working alliance in post-release mentally ill offenders.”

15. Yarimar Carrasquillo-Garcia, PhD
BS, 2000, University of Puerto Rico-Rio Piedras; PhD, 2005, Baylor College of Medicine.
“Hemispheric lateralization of a molecular signal for pain modulation in the amygdala.”

16. Jade Carter, PhD
BA, 2002, Chestnut Hill College; PhD 2008, Brown University.
“Ethanol inhibition of aspartyl-(asparaginyl)-beta-hydroxylase: Relevance to impaired neuronal migration in fetal alcohol spectrum disorders.”

17. David Castro-Sabatini, PhD
BS, 1999, University of Puerto Rico-Rio Piedras; PhD, 2005, University of Wisconsin Madison.
“Collisions and reactions of n-propanol with molten sodium hydroxide/potassium hydroxide.”

18. Debbie Chung, PhD
“Expanding Arcadias: Pastoral myth-making in twentieth-century British fiction.”

19. Chandra Coleman, PhD
BS, 1999, Xavier University of Louisiana; PhD, 2005, Saint Louis University.
“Two enzymes separately control peripheral versus central serotonin synthesis in Drosophila melanogaster.”

20. Dee Lisa Cothran, PhD
BS, 1999, Tennessee State University; PhD, 2005, Washington University.
“The role of facial affect in the perception of threat posed by Black faces.”

21. Stacie Craft, PhD
BS, 2000, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; PhD, 2005, Duke University.
“Ethnic differences in the relationship between self-efficacy, outcome expectations, and academic achievement for first-year college students.”

22. Fernando Cruz-Guilloty
BS, 2001, University of Puerto Rico -Mayaguez; PhD, 2008, Harvard University.
“Transcriptional and epigenetic regulation of CD8+ T cell differentiation and function.”

23. Angel Custodio, PhD
“Analysis of genetic modifiers of murine iron homeostasis.”

24. Rodney Dale, PhD
AB, 2000, Columbia University; PhD, 2007, University of Chicago.
“Cardiac-restricted transcriptional regulation of the FOG-2 gene.”

25. Jarita Davis, PhD
AB, 1996, Brown University; PhD, 2003, University of Louisiana at Lafayette.
“As Minhas Mornas.”

26. Jo Del Rio, PhD
BS, 1993, California State University, Northridge; PhD, 2000, University of California Irvine.
“Acquisition of dopamine agonist self-administration in naive rats: A stringent test of the dopamine hypothesis of reinforcement.”

27. Frank DeSilva, PhD
“Infestation of B-lymphocytes by human immunodeficiency virus type 1: Implications in activation and transformation.”

28. Arnaldo Diaz, PhD
BS, 2002 University of Puerto Rico-Rio Piedras; PhD, 2008, Texas A&M University.
“Solid supported bilayers: Separation platform for proteomics applications.”

29. Rebecca Dixon-Kennedy, PhD
BS, 1994, Oberlin College; PhD, 2000, Temple University.
“Trajectories of loyalty in African-centered women’s literary criticism.”

30. Raymond Doss, PhD
BA, 2000, New York University; PhD, 2005, California Institute of Technology.
“Programmable oligomers for DNA recognition.”

31. Tami Edwards, PhD
BA, 1997, Yale University; PhD, 2006, New York University.
“Implicit and explicit affective and motivational consequences of social ambiguity among depressed individuals with anxiety.”

32. Marcel Estévez, PhD
BS, 2000, University of Puerto Rico-Mayaguez; PhD, 2008, Johns Hopkins University.
“Regulation of neuronal RhoA guanine-nucleotide exchange factor, Tech, and its interaction with synaptic scaffold protein, MUPP1.”
33. Yazmin Figueroa-Guzman, PhD
    BS, 2001, University of Puerto Rico-
    Rio Piedras; PhD, 2005, National
    Autonomous University of Mexico.
    “NMDA receptors in the basolateral amygdala
    and gustatory neophobia.”
34. Aisha Finch, PhD
    AR, 1998, Brown University; PhD, 2007,
    New York University.
    “Insurgency at the crossroads: Cuban slaves and
    the conspiracy of La Escalera, 1841-44.”
35. Marissa Galvez, PhD
    AR, 1999, Yale University; PhD, 2007,
    Stanford University.
    “Medium as genre: A historical phenomenology
    of the medieval songbook in the Occitan,
    German, and Castilian traditions.”
36. Stephen Garcia, PhD
    BA, 1995, Stanford University; PhD, 2002,
    Princeton University.
    “Social categories and intergroup preference
    disputes: The aversion to winner-take-all
    solutions.”
37. Daniel Gingerich, PhD
    BS, 1999, Cornell University; PhD, 2007,
    Harvard University.
    “Corruption in general equilibrium: Political
    institutions and bureaucratic performance in
    South America.”
38. Jimena Varon Goldstine, PhD
    BS, 2000, Chapman University; PhD, 2007,
    University of California,
    Los Angeles.
    “The relationship between ATMs and chromatin.”
39. Patricia Gonzalez, PhD
    BS, 2000, University of California-
    Riverside; PhD, 2006, Colorado State.
    “The design, construction, and testing of an
    instrument to measure Latina’s health beliefs
    about breast cancer and screening.”
40. Frederick Gregory, PhD
    BA, 1999, Morehouse College; PhD, 2006,
    University of California, Los
    Angeles School of Medicine.
    “Mechanisms of exocytosis from vestibular hair
    cells.”
41. Unja Hayes, PhD
    AR, 1996, Dartmouth College; PhD, 2002,
    University of Southern California.
    “The interaction between the aversive properties
    of arginine vaspressin and its modulation of
    extinction of a lithium chloride-induced
    conditioned taste avoidance.”
42. Samuel Hernandez, PhD
    BS, 1999, University of Puerto Rico-
    Mayaguez; PhD, 2005, Yale University.
    “The role of the Abn-related gene (Arg) tyrosine
    kinase in the regulation of adhesion-dependent
    cellular morphogenesis.”
43. Jocelyn Hicks-Garner, PhD
    BS, 1997, Spelman; PhD, 2002, University
    of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.
    “Electronanalytical studies of monolayer-protected
    gold nanoparticles.”
44. Meda Higa, PhD
    BA, 1999, University of California, Santa
    Cruz; PhD, 2006, University of Utah.
    “Characterization of the zinc finger domain of
    the nuclear pore protein Nup153.”
45. Glade Hill Jr., PhD
    BS, 1996, Tougaloo College; PhD, 2003,
    Jackson State University.
    “Theoretical study of cisplatin and cisplatin
    analogs.”
46. Patricia Hopkins, PhD
    BS, 1994, Queens College; PhD, 2002,
    University of Pennsylvania.
    “Invisible woman: Reading rape and sexual
    exploitation in African-American literature.”
47. David Howard, PhD
    2001, Johns Hopkins University; PhD, 2006,
    Johns Hopkins University.
    “Incarceration during pregnancy and birth
    outcomes.”
48. Angela McMillan Howell, PhD
    BS, 2000, Morgan State University; PhD, 2007,
    Brown University.
    “Not just ‘down yonder’: Growing up black in
    rural Alabama.”
49. Ashfia Huq, PhD
    BS, 1996, Mount Holyoke College; PhD, 2003,
    SUNY at Stony Brook.
    “Structure and properties of alkali fullersilis
    and structure solution from powder diffraction.”
50. Malo Hutson, PhD
    BA, 1997, University of California,
    Berkeley; PhD, 2006, Massachusetts
    Institute of Technology.
    “Politics, jobs and workforce development: The
    role of workforce intermediaries in building
    career pathways within Boston’s health care
    industry.”
51. Candice Jenkins, PhD
    BA, 1996, Spelman College; PhD, 2001,
    Duke University.
    “Cultural infidels: Intimate betrayal and the
    bonds of race.”
52. Jeraine Johnson, PhD
    BA, 1999, Morgan State University; PhD, 2005,
    University of Southern California.
    “Energy transfer dynamics in novel macrocyclic
    polymers: A comparative study of depolarization
    and excitation annihilation using ultrafast time
    resolved spectroscopy.”
53. L’Aurelle Johnson, PhD
    BS, 2000, Xavier University of Louisiana;
    PhD, 2005, University of Michigan.
    “Dopamine transporter regulation by
    amphiphilic lipid bilayer, and trafficking
    events.”
54. Wilsaan Joiner, PhD
    BA, 2001, Saint Louis University; PhD,
    2007, Johns Hopkins University.
    “Time estimation and error feedback in
    predictive eye movement timing.”
55. Candace Jones, PhD
    BS, 2001, Tennessee State University;
    PhD, 2007, Meharry Medical College.
    “Studies on Trypanosoma brucei serine/threonine
    protein phosphatase 5 structure and function.”
56. Dalton Jones, PhD
    BS, 1996, Brooklyn College; PhD, 2007,
    Yale University.
    “Black market: Louise Armstrong and the
    primitive accumulation of desire.”
57. Marcus Jones, PhD
    BS, 2000, Southern University at Baton
    Rouge; PhD, 2005, New York University.
    “LuxS-mediated quorum-sensing in Bacillus
    anthracis and the effect of halogenated
    furanones on Bacillus anthracis growth and gene
    expression.”
58. Marquesa King, PhD
    BS, 1997, Delaware State University;
    PhD, 2002, Virginia Polytechnic Institute
    and State University.
    “Effects of methylmercury exposure on the
    immune and neurological responses of mice to
    Toxoplasma gondii infection.”
59. Ferentz LaFargue, PhD
    BS, 1998, Queens College; PhD, 2005,
    Yale University.
    “The survivor figure in the fiction of slavery.”
60. Letise House LaFeir, PhD
    AR, 2000, Brown University; PhD, 2005,
    University of Delaware.
    “The importance of horizontal swimming
    behavior in maintaining patches of larval crabs.”
61. Magda Latorre-Esteves, PhD
    BS, 2001, University of Puerto Rico-
    Mayaguez; PhD, 2007, Harvard
    University.
    “Characterization of the Saccharomyces
    cerevisiae vinvun family and their roles in
    lifespan regulation.”
62. Nikia Laurie, PhD
    BS, 1996, Xavier University of Louisiana;
    “Characterization of CECAM1-mediated effects
    on tumor growth and desmosomal organization.”
63. Nandi Leslie, PhD  
BS, 1999, Howard University; PhD, 2003, Princeton University.  
“Spatial stochastic models for landscape degradation and deforestation in Bolivia and Brazil.”

64. Victoria Love, PhD  
BS, 1999, California State University, San Diego; PhD, 2005, Harvard University.  
“Cytotoxic T lymphocyte antigen-4 regulates cytotoxic T cells that cause myocarditis.”

65. Mildred Maldonado-Molina, PhD  
BS, 1999, University of Puerto Rico-Rio Piedras; PhD, 2005, Pennsylvania State University.  
“The gateway hypothesis of substance use: An operational definition, alternative progression patterns, and methodological challenges.”

66. Joeli Marrero, PhD  
“Entry exclusion in ICEs: defining the role of the recipient during the conjugative process.”

67. Kyndra Middleton, PhD  
BS, 2002, Florida A&M University; PhD, 2007, University of Iowa.  
“The effect of a read-aloud accommodation on items on a reading comprehension test for students with reading-based learning disabilities.”

68. Kesi Miller, PhD  
“The states, traits and developmental stages associated with spiritual experience.”

69. Sergio Morales, PhD  
BS, 2001, University of Puerto Rico-Mayaguez; PhD, 2006, University of Vermont.  
“Transcriptional regulation of the PDX cluster in Pseudomonas stutzeri strain KC.”

70. Iyabo Morrison, PhD  
BA, 1997, Spelman College; PhD, 2005, Florida State University.  
“Attitude change among undergraduate rehabilitation interns.”

71. Inhua Muyrers-Chen, PhD  
BA, 1998, Cornell University; PhD, 2005, Open University (UK).  
“Effects of mixed-lineage leukemia, the human homologue of trithorax, and its leukaemic fusion proteins in Drosophila melanogaster.”

72. Anthony Ndirango, PhD  
BS, 1999, California Institute of Technology; PhD, 2006, University of California, Berkeley.  
“Geometric twists and turns in physics: A smorgasbord.”

73. Robert Patterson, PhD  
BS, 2002, Georgetown University; PhD, 2007, Emory University.  
“Many are invited, but few are chosen: Civil rights, historical memory, and the figure of the ‘Chosen’ one in the African American literary tradition, 1971-1989.”

74. Monica Pelaez, PhD  
AB, 1997, Princeton University; PhD, 2006, Brown University.  
“Sentiment and experiment: Poe, Dickinson, and the culture of death in nineteenth-century America.”

75. Edyln Peña, PhD  
BA, 2001, University of California, Santa Cruz; PhD, 2007, University of Southern California.  

76. Yansi Perez, PhD  
BA, 1997, Stanford University; PhD, 2006, Princeton University.  
“The poetics of history in the work of Roque Dalton.”

77. Nicolas Perrusquia, PhD  
BS, 1995, Delaware State University; PhD, 2007, University of Pittsburgh.  
“Divalent Cation-induced regulation of alpha 5 beta 1-fibronectin interaction force assessed using atomic force microscopy.”

78. Cecilia Enjuto Rangel, PhD  
BS, 1998, University of Puerto Rico-Rio Piedras; PhD, 2005, Yale University.  
“Cities in ruins in modern poetry.”

79. Landon Reid, PhD  
BA, 1994, Morehouse College; PhD, 2001, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.  
“...But I know it when I see it: Experimental epistemology of racism.”

80. Diana Rios-Cordon, PhD  
BS, 2002, University of Puerto Rico-Mayaguez; PhD, 2008 Stanford University.  
“A role for GPRs in the maintenance of meiotic arrest in Xenopus laevis oocytes.”

81. Fatima Rivas, PhD  
BS, 2001, California State University, Dominguez Hills; PhD, 2006, University of California, San Diego.  
“Synthetic studies towards the total synthesis of norzanthamine.”

82. Elizabeth Lewis Roberts, PhD  
BA, 1998, Dartmouth College; PhD, 2004, Rutgers University.  
“Reorganization of the tribe Balansiae.”

83. Neil Roberts, PhD  
“Freedom as servitude: The dialectic of slavery and freedom in Arendt, Pettit, Rousseau, Douglass, and the Haitian Revolution.”

84. Joel Rodriguez, PhD  
BS, 1999, Barry University; PhD, 2004, University of Michigan.  
“When being ‘good’ is not good enough: A social vigilance approach to impression formation.”

85. Labib Rouhana, PhD  
BS, 2000, University of Texas at El Paso; PhD, 2007, University of Wisconsin Madison.  
“Characterization and regulation of GLD-2: A cytoplasmic poly(A) polymerase in the vertebrate brain, oocyte and early embryo.”

86. Edgardo Ruiz, PhD  
BS, 1999, University of Puerto Rico-Mayaguez; PhD, 2006, University of Pittsburgh.  
“Cultural politics and health: The development of intercultural health policies in the Atlantic coast of Nicaragua.”

87. Rachelle Salomon, PhD  
BS, 1999, University of Maryland, Baltimore County; PhD, 2004, Brown University.  
“Regulations of Type I interferon effects during viral infections by altering accessibility of signal transducer and activator of transcription factors.”

88. AmariIys Sanchez, PhD  
BS, 1998, University of Puerto Rico-Rio Piedras; PhD, 2005, Cornell University.  
“Formulation, in vitro characterization and in vivo evaluation of a biodegradable camptothecin sustained release delivery system for intratumoral treatments of transplanted breast cancer cells.”

89. Cheryl Sanchez-Irizarry, PhD  
BS, 1999 University of Puerto Rico-Rio Piedras; PhD, 2005, Harvard University.  
“Functional and biochemical characterization of the negative regulatory region of mammalian Notch.”

90. Luis Sanchez-Perez, PhD  
BS, 2000, University of Puerto Rico-Mayaguez; PhD, 2005, Mayo Clinic and Foundation.  
“Use of HSV elicited in immunostimulatory gene for Cancer Immunotherapy.”

91. Jason Sello, PhD  
BS, 1997, Morehouse College; PhD, 2002, Harvard University.  
“Use of conformational analysis as a design element in diversity-oriented organic synthesis.”
92. Evelyn Simien, PhD
BS, 1995, Xavier University of Louisiana; PhD, 2001, Purdue University.
“Black feminist consciousness: An empirical analysis of the simultaneous effects of race and gender on political behavior.”

93. Sophia Suarez-Gustave, PhD
“Fundamental investigation of the transport properties of supracids in aqueous and non-aqueous media.”

94. Tamara Tatum-Broughton, PhD
BS, 1999, Xavier University of Louisiana; PhD, 2007, Howard University.
“Cervical cancer cell adhesion to extracellular matrix proteins and its effects on matrix metalloproteinase expression.”

95. Harry Taylor, PhD
BA, 1996, Morehouse College; PhD, 2004, Johns Hopkins University.
“Functional antagonism between members of the TFI-I transcription factor family.”

96. Patricia Valencia, PhD
BS, 2001, University of Puerto Rico-Mayaguez; PhD, 2008, Harvard University.
“Spermatogenesis in the human testis.”

97. Yasmine Valentin-Vega, PhD
BS, 2000, University of Puerto Rico-Rio Piedras; PhD, 2005, National Autonomous University of Mexico.
“NMDA receptors in the basolateral amygdala and gustatory neophobia.”

98. Wilton Virgo, PhD
BA, 2000, Princeton University; PhD, 2005, Arizona State University.
“The response of diatomic chemical intermediates to electric and magnetic fields.”

99. Jeanette Walley-Jean, PhD
BA, 1995, Spelman College; PhD, 2002, University of Southern Mississippi.
“Imaginal exposure and response prevention for anger and aggressive behavior.”

100. Tonya Roberts Webb, PhD
BS, 1998, Prairie View A&M University; PhD, 2003, Indiana University.
“The role of CD1d1 molecules and NKT cells in antiviral immunity.”

101. Stefan Wheelock, PhD
BS, 1993, Tougaloo College; PhD, 2001, Brown University.
“Race, reason, and the state: Enlightenment ideology and Black critique.”

102. Shanta M. Whitaker, PhD
BS, 2002, Virginia Union University; PhD, 2008, Yale University.
“World leishmaniasis and macrophage interaction: Investigating the biological function of the proteoglycolipid complex, P8.”

103. Stephen White, PhD
BS, 1995, Delaware State University; PhD, 2001, UC Riverside.
“Development of novel methodology for the stereoselective synthesis of tetrahydropyranos via 1,1-carbon dipole annihilations.”

104. Latasha Wright, PhD
“Structural function analysis of isoprenylcysteine carboxyl methyltransferase.”

105. Arturo Zavala, PhD
BS, 1995, California State University, San Bernadino; PhD, 2007, Arizona State University.
“The neuronal circuitry activated by cocaine-associated cues in an animal model of cocaine craving: Involvement of AMPA glutamate receptors and cortical neuroplasticity.”

106. Zarixia Zavala-Ruiz, PhD
BS, 1999, University of Puerto Rico-Rio Piedras; PhD, 2004, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.
“Structural studies of the human class II major histocompatibility complex protein HLA-DR1.”

107. Eric Ackah, MD, PhD
BS, 1998, Delaware State University; MD/PhD, 2003, Yale University.
“The role of Akt/protein kinase B in postnatal angiogenesis: Insights from Akt knockout mice.”

108. Vanessa Toney-Bobb, MD, PhD
BS, 1996, Brown University; PhD, 2006, Brown University.
“Effects of hypoxia, anoxia and acidosis on the ECG and cardiac force development of the freshwater turtle.”

109. Michelle Tarver-Carr, MD, PhD
BS, 1995 Spelman College; PhD, 2003, Johns Hopkins University.

110. Edmund Griffin, MD, PhD
“Light, cryptochrome, and circadian clocks.”

111. Emily Derouen Knuth, MD, PhD
BS, 1996, Xavier University of Louisiana; PhD, 2004, Albert Einstein College of Medicine.
“Short-term effects and long-term consequences of neonatal HPA activation.”

112. Nesanet Senait Mitiku, MD, PhD
BS, 1995, Stanford University; PhD, 2006, Brown University.
“Genomic analysis of early mouse development.”

113. Dolly Ann Padovani-Claudio, MD, PhD
BS, 1999, University of Puerto Rico-Mayaguez; PhD, 2007, Case Western Reserve University.
“Functional analyses of the chemokine receptor CXCR2 in the normal and demyelinated adult central nervous system.”

114. Damani Piggott, MD, PhD
BS, 1997, Morehouse College; PhD, 2004, Yale University.
“Innate control of adaptive Th2 immunity: the role of endotoxin, dendritic cells, and MyD88 in pulmonary allergic responses to inhaled antigen.”

115. Chelsea Stalling-Pinnix, MD, PhD
BS, 1999, University of Maryland-Baltimore County; PhD, 2007, University of Pennsylvania.
“Notch1 activation confers transforming properties to primary human melanocytes and promotes human melanoma progression.”

116. Brenda Rivera-Reyes, MD, PhD
BS, 1999, University of Puerto Rico-Mayaguez; PhD, 2006, Case Western Reserve University.
“Regulation of the TCR signaling pathway.”
GRADUATE AND POSTDOCTORAL ACTIVITIES

The Leadership Alliance has provided support for students as they progress through their doctoral training programs and as they near the completion of their degrees. In the past, the Alliance provided:

• Predoctoral Fellowships awarded to students in the humanities and social sciences through support from the Irene Diamond Fund.
• Dissertation Fellowships to support PhD candidates in the humanities and social sciences and a similar fellowship for PhD candidates in the physical or life sciences.

To encourage, select, and place new PhDs in competitive academic appointments at postdoctoral and junior faculty levels, the Alliance has also developed postdoctoral initiatives in order to assist and mentor alumni at the next steps along the academic pathway.

• Emerging PhD Yearbook which summarizes the academic training and post-PhD career intentions of graduate students nearing completion of their doctoral degrees. This resource is distributed within the Alliance network and also to federally-supported postdoctoral programs.

RESOURCES FOR THE NETWORK

The Alliance develops and shares unique resources that come from its affiliations, institutional expertise, assessment outcomes, and publications.

• Faculty Resource Network. The Leadership Alliance collaborates with the Faculty Resource Network (FRN) of New York University to improve the quality of teaching and learning by providing opportunities for faculty development and cross institutional collaboration. Faculty from Alliance institutions are eligible for conference fellowships to participate in the annual FRN workshops.

• Institutional Coordinators Biannual Meeting. Administrators, faculty, and staff of the Alliance serve as an internal ‘think tank’ for the consortium. They meet twice yearly to share data, communicate best practices, and develop policy for the Alliance consortium.

• The Leadership Alliance Website. The Leadership Alliance website is designed to provide information on programs, accomplishments, and resources for the entire Leadership Alliance network. See www.theleadershipalliance.org

• Publications. The Alliance develops and distributes original materials and pamphlets relevant to various stages of the academic career path. Copies are distributed within the Alliance network and are often requested by other organizations and distributed at national conferences and meetings. PDF versions of each resource are provided on the Alliance website.
Brooklyn College, established in 1930, is located in Brooklyn, New York and is a founding member of the Leadership Alliance.

Brown University, established in 1764, is located in Providence, Rhode Island. Brown is the originator of the Leadership Alliance and serves as the headquarters for the Executive Office.

Chaminade University, established in 1955, is located in Honolulu, Hawaii and joined the Leadership Alliance in 2006.

Claflin University, established in 1869, is located in Orangeburg, South Carolina and joined the Leadership Alliance in 2000.

Columbia University, established in 1764, is located in New York, New York and is a founding member of the Leadership Alliance.

Cornell University, established in 1865, is located in Ithaca and New York, New York and is a founding member of the Leadership Alliance.

Dartmouth College, established in 1769, is located in Hanover, New Hampshire and is a founding member of the Leadership Alliance.

Delaware State University, established in 1891, is located in Dover, Delaware and is a founding member of the Leadership Alliance.

Dillard University, established in 1869, is located in New Orleans, Louisiana and joined the Leadership Alliance in 2005.

Harvard University, established in 1636, is located in Cambridge and Boston, Massachusetts and is a founding member of the Leadership Alliance.

Howard University, established in 1867, is located in Washington, D.C. and is a founding member of the Leadership Alliance.

Hunter College, established in 1870, is located in New York, New York and is a founding member of the Leadership Alliance.

Johns Hopkins University, established in 1876, is located in Baltimore, Maryland and is a founding member of the Leadership Alliance.

Montana State University, established in 1893, is located in Bozeman, Montana and joined the Leadership Alliance in 1999.

Morehouse College, established in 1867, is located in Atlanta, Georgia and is a founding member of the Leadership Alliance.

Morgan State University, established in 1867, is located in Baltimore, Maryland and is a founding member of the Leadership Alliance.
New York University, established in 1831, is located in New York, New York and is a founding member of the Leadership Alliance.

Prairie View A&M University, established in 1876, is located in Prairie View, Texas and is a founding member of the Leadership Alliance.

Princeton University, established in 1746, is located in Princeton, New Jersey and is a founding member of the Leadership Alliance.

Spelman College, established in 1881, is located in Atlanta, Georgia and is a founding member of the Leadership Alliance.

Stanford University, established in 1891, is located in Stanford, California and joined the Leadership Alliance in 1999.

Tougaloo College, established in 1869, is located in Jackson, Mississippi and is a founding member of the Leadership Alliance.

Tufts University, established in 1852, is located in Medford and Boston, Massachusetts and joined the Leadership Alliance in 2002.

University of Chicago, established in 1892, is located in Chicago, Illinois and joined the Leadership Alliance in 2007.

University of Colorado at Boulder, established in 1876, is located in Boulder, Colorado and joined the Leadership Alliance in 2001.

University of Maryland, Baltimore County, established in 1963, is located in Baltimore, Maryland and joined the Leadership Alliance in 1997.

University of Miami, established in 1925, is located in Coral Gables, Florida and joined the Leadership Alliance in 2002.

University of Pennsylvania, established in 1751, is located in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and is a founding member of the Leadership Alliance.

University of Puerto Rico, established in 1901, is located in several cities across Puerto Rico and joined the Leadership Alliance in 1997.

University of Virginia, established in 1825, is located in Charlottesville, Virginia and joined the Leadership Alliance in 2006.

Xavier University of Louisiana, established in 1925, is located in New Orleans, Louisiana and is a founding member of the Leadership Alliance.

Vanderbilt University, established in 1873, is located in Nashville, Tennessee and joined the Leadership Alliance in 2005.

Yale University, established in 1701, is located in New Haven, Connecticut and is a founding member of the Leadership Alliance.
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Hunter College
Johns Hopkins University
Montana State University-Bozeman
Morehouse College
Morgan State University
New York University
Prairie View A&M University
Princeton University
Spelman College
Stanford University
Tougaloo College
Tufts University
University of Chicago
University of Colorado at Boulder
University of Maryland, Baltimore County
University of Miami
University of Pennsylvania
University of Puerto Rico
University of Virginia
Vanderbilt University
Xavier University of Louisiana
Yale University

The Leadership Alliance is an academic consortium of 33 institutions of higher learning, including leading research and teaching colleges and universities. The mission of the Alliance is to develop underrepresented students into outstanding leaders and role models in academia, business and the public sector.