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Are you a **FACES**  
**alum**? Let us  
know where you  
are and what  
you're doing.

*Facilitating Academic Careers in Engineering and the Sciences is a project of the National Science Foundation Alliances for Graduate Education and the Professoriate. The participating institutions are **Georgia Institute of Technology, Morehouse College, Spelman College, and Emory University**. Our mission is to increase the number of science professors from underrepresented ethnic groups.*



## Platt receives FACES Career Initiation Grant

Manu Platt, PhD has been awarded the FACES **Career Initiation Grant**. Dr. Platt is a graduate of Morehouse College where he earned a degree in Biology. He completed his PhD in the Emory/Georgia Tech joint program in Biomedical Engineering, and recently completed an internship at the National Institutes of Health and a postdoc at Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Dr. Platt will receive the **\$30,000** grant

to start his lab at Georgia Tech where he will join the faculty of the Wallace H. Coulter Department of Biomedical Engineering at Georgia Tech and Emory in January 2009. There, he will continue his research on stem cells focusing on their reparative and regenerative abilities with particular attention to their homing and integration into damaged tissue via proteolytic degradation of the surrounding extracellular matrix.

**Congratulations, Dr. Platt!**

## Three receive FACES Postdoctoral Fellowships

Three Georgia Tech and Emory students were recently awarded the **FACES Postdoctoral Fellowship**. Akua Asa-Awuku (GT), Carlos Goller (Emory), and Brad Jones (GT) will each receive **\$35,000** to use toward postdoctoral training, travel, equipment and other expenses.

During his graduate training, **Brad Jones** developed a culturally-sensitive food frequency questionnaire. For his postdoc, he will focus on other culturally sensitive assessment tools aimed at obesity prevention.

**Carlos Goller** studied biofilms in E. Coli as a graduate student and will study the process in pathogenic bacteria during his postdoc at Duke University.

**Akua Asa-Awuku** conducted research on aerosol cloud-climate interactions during her graduate work. She will continue her atmospheric research and focus on secondary organic aerosols while conducting her postdoc at Carnegie Mellon University.

**Congratulations** to these students!

## FACES welcomes summer researchers

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*Order books, reports, presentations and more from the National Academy Press at [books.nap.edu](http://books.nap.edu)*

*Read more than 3,000 books online, including **On Being a Scientist**, for **FREE!***

FACES recognizes the summers provide an excellent opportunity for undergraduates to do research. This summer, Emory and Georgia Tech are hosting undergraduate students from all over the country who are doing research at the institutions.

In conjunction with the **Center for Behavioral Neuroscience** ([www.cbn-atl.org](http://www.cbn-atl.org)) BRAIN program and the **Center for Science Education** ([www.cse.emory.edu/sciencenet](http://www.cse.emory.edu/sciencenet)) SURE program, Emory FACES is funding biomedical research opportunities for six students from around the country. At Georgia Tech, 29 students are

participating in the 17<sup>th</sup> annual **Summer Undergraduate Research in Engineering/Science** (SURE) program.

In addition, several Morehouse and Spelman students are spending ten weeks conducting research at the **Georgia Tech Lorriane** campus in Metz, France. The program will increase the global-readiness of science and engineering students and is aimed at students who are already proficient in French. This is the second year of the three-year program which is a branch of the Georgia Tech SURE Program.

## Students invited to apply to FACES Scholars Program

Upperclass undergraduates at **Emory, Spelman, Morehouse**, and **Georgia Tech** in science, mathematics, and engineering disciplines are asked to apply to the **FACES Undergraduate Scholars Research Program**. The program offers talented undergraduate students the opportunity to become involved in research in the hope that they will be motivated to pursue graduate education. While the program offers the students the obvious advantages of early exposure to research, it offers participating faculty the opportunity to mentor promising students and gain assistance with research.

As a FACES scholar, the students perform research under the supervision of a faculty member. Scholars are expected to work **at least 10 hours per week**, and will receive a stipend of **\$1500 per semester**. As part of the research experience, each participant is expected to complete a report summarizing the results of their research and prepare a final presentation in the spring semester.

Application forms and instructions will be posted on the FACES websites early in the Fall 2008 semester. Please visit <http://www.faces.gatech.edu/> or [http://www.biomed.emory.edu/PROGRAM\\_SITES/FACES](http://www.biomed.emory.edu/PROGRAM_SITES/FACES) for more information or contact Reginald DesRoches, PhD at [reginald.desroches@ce.gatech.edu](mailto:reginald.desroches@ce.gatech.edu).

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## FACES Papers, presentations and more

\* **Neil Milan**, FACES Fellow (Emory) recently gave a talk at the Drosophila Research Conference and presented his work at the meeting of the American Society of Parasitologists.

\* **Holly Williams**, FACES Fellow (Emory) was awarded the AHA predoctoral Fellowship and a National Research Service Award by the NIH.

\* **Meriem Gaval**, FACES Fellow (Emory) was awarded a National Research Service Award by the NIH. She recently published Gaval-Cruz, et al. (2008) Pharmacology, Biochemistry and Behavior. 89(4):556-562.

\* **Shala Thomas**, FACES Fellow (Emory) presented her work at the April meeting of the American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics in San Diego.

\* **Kristi Porter**, FACES Fellow (Emory) recently presented her work at the Experimental Biology Research Conference in San Diego and the meeting of the American Thoracic Society Research Conference in Toronto.

\* **Chad Jackson**, FACES Fellow (Emory), recently gave a talk about his work at the Pineal Gordon Conference in Italy.

\* **Lisa Cockrell**, FACES Fellow (Emory) presented his work at the Gordon Research Conference on the Biology of 14-3-3 Proteins in Ventura, CA and at the American Association of Cancer Research Conference in Philadelphia.

\* **Jamie Mells**, FACES Fellow (Emory) was awarded a Minority Investigator Award Supplement by the NIH.

(See **News**, Page 4)

### **Need money?**

Learn about NIH Individual funding opportunities at [http://grants.nih.gov/training/F\\_files\\_nrsa.htm](http://grants.nih.gov/training/F_files_nrsa.htm)

Search the NSF at

[http://www.nsf.gov/funding/education.jsp?org=NSF&fund\\_ty pe=2](http://www.nsf.gov/funding/education.jsp?org=NSF&fund_ty pe=2)

## Survey of Blacks in STEM Disciplines

We all know the importance of research. So consider the work of Christina Koenig Dillon. She's a public school teacher in Grand Rapids Michigan and she has constructed a survey to "obtain your views and reveal **positive influences, choices, and experiences** that lead you to successfully earn a Bachelor's degree or higher in the STEM fields." Her goal is "to reveal key challenges, transitions, and difficult barriers one must overcome to achieve in higher education. Your ideas and suggestions will be considered in designing curriculum for elementary and middle school students, teacher preparation, and outreach programs for elementary, middle, and high school students."

Hurry! She needs her data soon. Visit [http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=sCrnML5Jr62P3Bq5a7LvTg\\_3d\\_3d](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=sCrnML5Jr62P3Bq5a7LvTg_3d_3d) to complete the survey by **July 27, 2008**. You can contact Ms. Dillon at [christinakoening@gmail.com](mailto:christinakoening@gmail.com).

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*Don't miss a thing!*

Back issues of **Face Forward** are available at:

<http://www.faces.gatech.edu/2007/newsletters.htm>

## Face Forward!

The newsletter of  
the FACES Alliance  
in Atlanta

**Georgia Tech  
Spelman  
Morehouse  
Emory**

**working together  
to change the  
face of the  
science and  
engineering  
professoriate**

## Emory solicits applications for FACES Fellows

Emory graduate students will soon have another opportunity to apply for the FACES Fellowship. The program provides stipend supplements and career development support for selected STEM graduate students. Fellows receive a yearly stipend supplement of \$2000 or \$3000 (depending on years in program), a \$750/year travel allowance, and career and professional development support.

Applications will be available on by August 1, 2008 at [http://www.biomed.emory.edu/PROGRAM\\_SITES/FACES/grad.html](http://www.biomed.emory.edu/PROGRAM_SITES/FACES/grad.html). Please contact Karama Neal, PhD ([kneal@emory.edu](mailto:kneal@emory.edu)) for additional information about the FACES Fellowships at Emory.

## News (Continued)

\* **Ebony Glover**, FACES Fellow (Emory) published her research in Glover and Davis (2008) *Psychopharmacology*, 198, 167-180. She was also awarded the NIMH Mental Health Dissertation Research Grant.

**Congratulations!** Send your news to [kneal@emory.edu](mailto:kneal@emory.edu).

## Research Ethics Videos Online

On May 15, 2008, the **Section for Ethics in Research and Participant Advocacy** of the **Atlanta Clinical and Translational Science Institute** hosted a conference entitled "Ethics and Translational Research: From Discovery to Implementation."

Topics include conflicts of interest, regulations, intellectual property, human subjects research, and more. Videos and slides for the one-day meeting are now online at <http://www.ethics.emory.edu/content/view/432/98>.

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