



January-March 2003

Osteo-CHAMPS is a Winner

College of Osteopathic Medicine recruits minority students

The MSU College of Osteopathic Medicine is successfully attracting minority students into medical careers through an innovative research and outreach effort called Osteo-CHAMPS (Careers in Health And Medicine Program).

Started in 1999, to meet goals outlined in the American Osteopathic Association's Minority Health Initiative, the program works to reduce racial inequality in the health sciences by recruiting underrepresented minority high school students into osteopathic medical careers. By increasing the cultural diversity of osteopathic practitioners, the project aims to promote cultural competence and cultural sensitivity in osteopathic patient care.

In 2002, Osteo-CHAMPS received \$72,500 in funding and had 40 participants in its Summer PREcollege Enrichment Program (PREP). These numbers

are a marked increase from the \$10,000 and 10 participants the program started with in 2000.

Early support and statewide interest are contributing to this success. A recipient of a 2001 FACT grant, Osteo-CHAMPS established a residential summer program at MSU, arranged admission seminars, and is developing mentorship programs—the efforts aim to expose, encourage and prepare minority students for education and careers in the health sciences.

“This FACT award assisted us in providing a very timely and essential program for the high school participants. We are forever indebted to FACT for recognizing the benefits of this program,” said Margaret I. Aguwa, Osteo-CHAMPS program director.

Osteo-CHAMPS's Summer PREP draws students from 16 high schools in Detroit, Muskegon, Lansing, Traverse City and surrounding communities. This two-week program takes place on the MSU campus in July and lets juniors and seniors interact with medical professionals through courses, workshops, and research. Past research projects have identified and addressed problems in medically underserved communities.

“We were amazed at the preparedness of these young students, their level of research and some of the recommendations they proposed,” said Aguwa.

Ten participants from Summer PREP 2000 and 2001 were admitted to MSU for Fall 2002. Three are currently attending and 14 more PREP participants have applied for admission in Fall 2003.



Osteo-CHAMPS participants Joe Orr, III and C'erra Eddington had an opportunity to attend MSU anatomy and physiology courses in Summer 2002. As part of an effort to reduce racial inequality in the health sciences, the program recruits underrepresented minority high school students into osteopathic medical careers. Through courses, workshops and research projects, students learn about and prepare for college opportunities in medicine.



Twelfth graders - (l-r): Cassandra Full, Lindsey O'Neil, Amanda Cresta, Mandy Crane, Nick VandenBosch, Wan Yi Leung, and La'Sharon King.

Osteo-CHAMPS sees these enrollments as signs that the program is working and it plans to increase its outreach and funding to build on this early success. In 2003, it will focus on developing its mentoring program in addition to offering Summer PREP again this July.

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Esther Onaga, ICYF's new acting director, wants researchers and students to turn to the Institute as a resource for cross-disciplinary work.

Onaga Assumes New Role at ICYF

Esther Onaga has recently taken on her new role as acting director of MSU's Institute for Children, Youth, and Families (ICYF). She began on January 2nd and will serve at least six months while director Marguerite Barratt is away.

"I look forward to working with all the talented and committed individuals at ICYF and potential partners in the community," said Onaga.

Onaga is an associate professor of Family and Child Ecology at MSU. Much of her work centers on allowing people with disabilities to access, contribute and participate in community life. She is a principal investigator of a FACT funded youth inclusive recreation program. Onaga has outlined some of her priorities and plans for ICYF under her tenure.

"One of my main priorities is to ensure that current projects sponsored or affiliated with ICYF continue to receive the necessary supports needed," said Onaga.

She will also work to encourage new collaborative efforts between campus and community.

"The complexity of community challenges necessitates applied researchers to conduct their research in a multidisciplinary collaborative fashion," said Onaga, "ICYF's structure provides support for this type of work. I would like MSU faculty, graduates and undergraduates whose research interests are in children, youth and families to see ICYF as a resource for cross-disciplinary work."

Forums Make Research Connections Grant seekers find partners and project ideas at FACT Forums

In November 2002, FACT hosted two open forums for grant seekers wishing to understand the FACT Coalition Request for Proposals (RFP) process. Participants learned about the FACT grant program and resources, and how to effectively compete for federal research funding and foundation grants.

"The forums are really an energizing experience for me," said Patricia Farrell, FACT associate director, "It's exciting to see so many faculty and community participants searching for ways to help improve the lives of people in communities throughout Michigan."

The 44 attendees included MSU faculty, graduate students, Extension staff and community organizations. Many came in search of potential partners. Research ideas were presented on a variety of topics including refugee services, nutrition education for the elderly, transitioning youth with disabilities from high school to college and creating local resource centers.

"It was especially helpful to meet other participants and learn more about some of the initiatives taking place across the state," said Ray Allen, assistant professor of Kinesiology at MSU. "The forum was very helpful. It communicated how to access information and resources and tailor our proposals to meet the program's expectations."

Through the grant program and targeted funding, FACT has awarded over \$1,400,000 to 61 collaborative projects throughout 62 Michigan counties, as well as 11 statewide initiatives. For 2002-03, FACT is seeking proposals in three Areas of Distinction: Youth Development: Communities and Schools, Family Engagement and Community Vitality, and Children, Youth and Nutrition. The proposal submission deadline is January 27th.

Further information about the grant program, application materials, and a searchable database of potential project partners is available at www.fact.msu.edu.

Fathers Forum April 10-11

A Fathers Forum will be held on Thursday, April 10 from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Friday, April 11 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Lansing Center.

Helen Raikes, from The Gallop Organization and United States Administration for Children, Youth, and Families, will speak on public policy issues.

Natasha Cabrara, from the University of Maryland will cover research aspects.

Nigel Vann, from the National Center for Strategic Nonprofit Planning and Community Leadership will talk about program set-up and implementation.

Michigan Head Start, MSU University Outreach, MSU Institute for Public Policy and Social Research, the Jackson Community Action Agency, The Kellogg Foundation and FACT are co-sponsoring the forum. Watch for further details on the FACT listserv and web site.



Faculty Recognized for Sharing Expertise with Lansing Community

By Tina Houghton

On November 20, 2002, University Outreach hosted a luncheon for nearly 200 MSU faculty who partner with the Lansing community as part of their research, teaching, or service-learning activities.

The luncheon thanked faculty for sharing their time and talent with the Lansing community, promoted awareness of their contributions and provided an opportunity for faculty to share stories and exchange ideas.

The event was part of Advancing Knowledge, Transforming Lives (AKTL) Networks – a University Outreach effort in the communities of Lansing, Grand Rapids, Flint, Detroit, and the Upper Peninsula.

University Outreach would like to share more success stories from faculty working in these communities. If you are involved in any of the five targeted



localities, or if you are interested in collaborating with community partners, please contact L. Annette Abrams at aabrams@msu.edu. For further information see the Statewide Resource Network website <http://msustatewide.msu.edu> or contact University Outreach at (517) 353-8977 or outreach@msu.edu.

MSU faculty listened to Lansing Mayor David Hollister at a University Outreach sponsored luncheon in November, 2002. Advancing Knowledge, Transforming Lives (AKTL) Networks is an Outreach initiative to promote faculty interaction and thank faculty for their contributions to the community through research, teaching or civic engagement.

Out-of-School Time

March 25-26

The Hours of Opportunity Positive Youth Development During Out-of-School Time Conference comes to East Lansing March 25-26. It will help professionals and volunteers explore ways to make positive differences for youth by providing participants with new skills, ideas, resources and potential partnerships to develop effective out-of-school time programming.

Topics include: best practices for positive youth development and school success, ways to build community capacity, current research and evaluation techniques, and methods for influencing public policy and advocacy. For information about the conference and sponsorship opportunities

visit <http://www.msue.msu.edu/cyf/OST/ost-conference/>.

This conference is sponsored by: MSU Extension, MSU Extension Youth Development Areas of Expertise Team, The Ohio State University Extension, Penn State Cooperative Extension, Michigan's Children, United Way of Michigan, Michigan Office of State & Federal Programs, Youth Outdoors, Cuyahoga County, Ohio, Girl Scouts of America Lansing Chapter, Boy Scouts of Michigan, Boys and Girls Clubs of Lansing, Ohio's Out-of School Time Project, MSU Families and Communities Together (FACT) Coalition, Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station and Michigan Recreation and Park Association.

Obesity Forum

March 20

Originally scheduled for January, the FACT forum on obesity will now be held on **Thursday, March 20, 2003 from 11:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.** "Obesity: A Personal or Public Health Issue?" will be web cast from the Lake Ontario Room at the Michigan Library in Lansing. The purpose of the forum is to release the results from the State of the State Survey questions on obesity conducted last year, showcase MSU research and successful efforts taking place throughout the state and hear policy perspectives from a panel of experts. A box lunch will be provided. For more information, email fact@msu.edu or call (517) 432-9207.

www.fact.msu.edu

Michigan State University
Families And Communities Together Coalition

Meeting the needs of Michigan families
through research, Extension and outreach

FACT is sponsored by:

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Michigan State University Extension

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Events

Please contact us about events related to children, youth, families and communities at 432-9207 or fact@msu.edu. Also, check our calendar at www.fact.msu.edu.

February 1

19th Annual Educational Technology Conference

MSU Erickson Hall, East Lansing, MI
These presentations share exemplary methods of integrating technology into K-12 teaching and assessment. There will be interactive discussions with conference presenters. For more information, call the Center for Teaching and Technology at (517) 432-7729.

February 13

Making the Case for Your Organization

Michigan Nonprofit Association Local Learning Series
MNA Office, 1048 Pierpont, Lansing, MI
Learn what makes an effective case statement and how to create one for your nonprofit. Presented by Tim Swope. For more information, visit www.mnaonline.org or call MNA at (517) 492-2400.

February 13 & 14

Engaging Students in a Disengaged Society

Institute on Service Learning Conference
Bovee Center, Mt. Pleasant, MI
Attend one or both days of this conference on service learning in K-12 and higher education. Scheduled speakers include CMU President Dr. Michael Rao, Dr. Edgar F. Beckham from the Association of American Colleges and Universities, and Thomas Watkins, Jr., State Superintendent, MI Dept. of Education. For more information, call Michigan Campus Compact at (517) 492-2424.

February 22

14th Annual Girls Math/Science Conference

Sponsored by the Capitol Area Science and Math Center, MSU Provost's Office, East Lansing High School, East Lansing, MI
This day-long event encourages girls from across the Greater Lansing area to pursue schooling in math and science. Community volunteers and presenters are needed. For more information or to help, call Jenny McCampbell at (517) 432-2129.

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