



# NIH BUILD



## DIVERSITY PROGRAM CONSORTIUM

Supported by the National Institutes of Health

Issue 1  
Fall 2016

# PROJECT PATHWAYS

*Building Integrated Pathways To Independence For Diverse Biomedical Researchers*

## Welcome to BUILD

The Career Advancement Center (CAC) hosted the NIH BUILD Project PATHWAYS annual interest meeting for parents and students. BUILD's annual interest meeting is held during Freshman Orientation week. The purpose of the meeting is to expose incoming Freshmen to careers in biomedical research.



Dr. Chelsea R. Singleton is a USDA AFRI Post-Doctoral Research Fellow in the Institute for Health Research and Policy at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC). She received a Bachelor of Science in Biology (Pre-Med) from Xavier University of Louisiana in 2009. After Xavier, she went on to receive a Master of Public Health in epidemiology from Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine in 2011, and a PhD in epidemiology from the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) in 2015.



Students and parents received an overview of Xavier's NIH BUILD Project PATHWAYS program from Mr. Lasana Cambrice, the Director of the CAC, Ms. Donna Lee, Assistant Director of the CAC, and Xavier Student, Chelsea Kelland, followed by inspiring words of motivation from Xavier alumna Dr. Chelsea R. Singleton.



### Administrative

*The Administrative Core provides administrative oversight of the other three cores and provides support to enhance faculty research competitiveness. It ensures that there is on-going communication with the NIH, implementation of the activities with input from external and internal evaluators and recommendations for best practices.*

### Summer Research Symposium

The Summer Research Symposium, hosted by the Center for Undergraduate Research (CUR), offers an opportunity to recognize the ongoing pulse of research that happens year-round at Xavier. During the Symposium, NIH BUILD students presented their project designs and updates to an interdisciplinary group of students and faculty. There were 52 student presentations and the event was open to the public and families.



*Research participants pose with Dr. Ja'Wanda Grant, Director of CUR (C), and Dr. Florastina Payton-Stewart, Interim Associate Director of CUR (L).*

### Institutional Development

*The Institutional Development Core (IDC) provides resources for key offices and centers across the campus that assist with students' academic support, professional development and undergraduate research activities.*



*Dr. Maryam Foroozesh, Lead PI of Xavier NIH BUILD, poses with a research student, Anna Smith.*

### Student Training

*The Student Training Core (STC) expands the number of biomedical research opportunities offered to Xavier students. This core also coordinates a number of activities designed to educate freshman and sophomore students about the variety of possible biomedical research careers they can pursue.*

### Connecting the PATHWAYS

The Cohort 1 BUILD Scholars were placed and enjoyed a positive summer research experience. The STC coordinated with the host institutions.

Name	Host Institution
Hakeem Brooks	Dartmouth College
Jenae Bryant	Tulane University Health Sciences Center
Kamilya Hunter	NYU School of Medicine
Veronica Miles	Baylor University
Michaela Smith	Kansas State University
Nhu Tran	Florida A&M University
Kendale Watson	Tulane University
Amber Weatherspoon	Tulane University



*BUILD Technicians pose with signs of the graduate schools they have just entered. Top (l to r) Peter Pham (UT Knoxville), Justin Grennell (LSU), and Davon Carter (UCLA). Bottom (L to R) Kyra Dodson (Ole Miss), Brianyell McDaniels (Texas Tech Health Science Center), and Jade Meyers (Tulane University). Faith Joseph, who is not in the picture, entered Baylor College of Medicine SMART Prep Program in Molecular Biology.*

Research  
Enrichment

*The Research Enrichment Core (REC) strengthens the supportive environment needed for Xavier students to overcome barriers to success through curriculum enhancement, mentor training, and post-baccalaureate research training for recent graduates.*

## We are BUILDing!!!

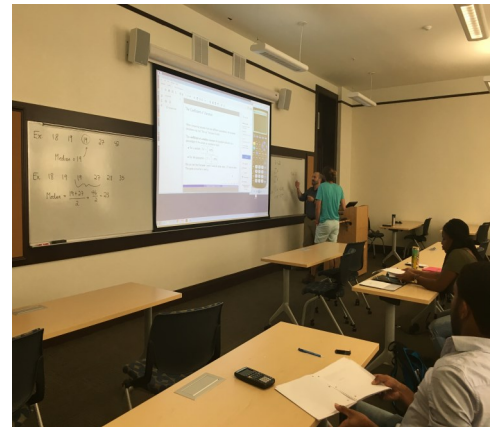
Over the summer, the Center for the Advancement of Teaching and Faculty Development (CAT+FD), in collaboration with the REC, hosted Preparing Mentors and Advisors at Xavier (P-MAX) and the BUILD/RISE Summer Workshops.



P-MAX was a full-day mentor training workshop and the BUILD/RISE Summer Workshops were held over two weeks. P-MAX provided supportive mentor training to faculty and research staff, and the BUILD/RISE Workshops allowed faculty to learn about pedagogical and assessment best practices. Dr. Tiera Coston, Education Improvement

Specialist for CAT+FD, along with program staff, coordinated activities for P-MAX and the BUILD/RISE Summer Workshops.

In addition to the workshops, renovations to the NIH BUILD Room (pictured below) were completed this summer. BUILD-sponsored workshops and research-driven courses will be held in the NIH BUILD Room.



*NIH BUILD Room in the Administration Building Room 305.*

## Research New Orleans Style!!!



New Orleans is known for its festive spirit and, in keeping with tradition, CUR hosted a crawfish boil for the students and faculty doing research at Xavier during the summer.

## Xavier University of Louisiana

Administration Building Annex  
Room 106

Phone: 504.520.7280

Fax: 504.520.7771



Find this newsletter online at  
[www.xula.edu/build](http://www.xula.edu/build)

## NIH BUILD At XULA Team Members

Dr. Maryam Foroozesh  
NCF Annex, Room 335  
504.520.5078  
mforoozesh@xula.edu

Dr. Marguerite Giguette  
Office of Academic Affairs, Room 216  
Administration Building  
504.520.570  
mgiguett@xula.edu

Dr. Kathleen Morgan  
NCF Annex, Room 301H  
504.520.5342  
kmmorgan@xula.edu

Dr. Kelly Johanson  
NCF Room 301H  
504.520.7610  
kjohanso@xula.edu

Mr. Lasana Cambrice  
Career Advancement Center  
St. Joseph Academic and Health Resource  
Center, Room 107  
504.520.7543  
lcambrice@xula.edu

Dr. Nathaniel Holmes  
Executive Director for Student Academic  
Success Office  
1 Drexel Drive  
New Orleans, LA 70125-1098  
504-520-6753 (office)  
nholmes@xula.edu

Dr. Gene D'Amour  
Administration Annex Building  
Room 106  
504.520.7280  
gdamour@xula.edu

Dr. Tiera Coston  
Center for the Advancement of Teaching  
and Faculty Development  
Library Resource Center, Room 539  
504.520.5070  
tcoston@xula.edu

Dr. Ja'Wanda Grant  
Center for Undergraduate Research  
St. Joseph Academic and Health  
Resource Center, Room 308  
504.520.5066  
jgrant4@xula.edu

Ms. Amy Billizon  
NCF, Room 204G  
504.520.5329  
abillizo@xula.edu

Ms. Melanie Steen-Sighinolfi  
Administration Building  
Office of Academic Affairs, Room 209  
504.520.7282  
msteensi@xula.edu

Ms. Doryne Sunda-Meya  
Administration Annex Building  
Room 106  
504.520.7264  
dsundame@xula.edu

Dr. Claire Wilkins-Green  
Office of Planning, Institutional  
Research and Assessment  
Administration Building Room 108  
504.520.5251  
cwilkins@xula.edu

Ms. Katie Allen  
Kansas State University  
2323 Anderson, Suite 220  
Manhattan, KS 66502  
785.532.1651  
klallen@ksu.edu

Dr. Cindi Dunn  
Kansas State University  
2323 Anderson, Suite 220  
Manhattan, KS 66502  
785.532.1651  
ckdunn@ksu.edu

Mr. Tony Brual  
Administration Annex Building  
Room 106  
504.520.7265  
tbrual@xula.edu

## Partner Institutions

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Louisiana State University (LSU) Health Sciences Center  
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