

B I N T O U C H W I T H P

B I O M E D I C A L S C I E N C E C A R E E R S P R O J E C T

New Program: The Commonwealth Fund/Harvard University Fellowship in Minority Health Policy

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This fall, Harvard Medical School (HMS) welcomed the first Fellows selected for The Commonwealth Fund/Harvard University Fellowship in Minority Health Policy. Established earlier this year the program, operated under the auspices of HMS's Minority Faculty Development Program, is intended to prepare physicians — minority physicians, in particular — for leadership roles in formulating and implementing public health policy and practice on a national, state or local level. Five one-year fellowships will be awarded each year.

Fellows complete academic work leading to a master's level degree and, through additional program activities, are exposed to the major health issues facing minority and disadvantaged populations.

The program includes:

- a curriculum developed by faculty at the Harvard Medical School, Harvard School of Public Health, and the John F. Kennedy School of Government;
- mentoring by senior Harvard faculty and administrators, as well as access to national leaders in health policy and public health practice;
- use of resources at Harvard Medical School (including the offices of Faculty Development and Diversity, and the Minority Faculty Development Program) to enhance the networking, career development and career advancement of participating fellows.

Who Is Eligible

All physicians who have completed residency and are U.S. citizens are eligible for the program. Candidates also must demonstrate an awareness of, or interest and experience in, dealing with the health needs of minority populations, as well as an intention to pursue a career in public health practice, public health policy or academia.

Review Criteria and Selection

Applications are reviewed for academic and training qualifications; commitment to a multicultural perspective in program planning, program implementation and policy analysis; experience with projects that address the health needs of minority and disadvantaged populations; and evidence of leadership potential.

A Harvard Coordinating Committee, made up of distinguished faculty and administrators, reviews applications, interviews candidates and works with the Program Director to select fellows.

How to Apply

Applicants must complete applications to both The Commonwealth Fund/Harvard University Fellowship in Minority Health Policy and the Harvard School of Public Health. Participation is contingent upon acceptance to both, although applicants who are not accepted to the Fellowship will still be eligible for admission to the School of Public Health.

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1996 BSCP Conference

Mentor Profile

Ruth C. Browne

At last year's Biomedical Science Careers Conference, Ruth C. Browne, MPP, MPH, director of the Arthur Ashe Institute of Urban Health in Brooklyn, New York, served both as a mentor and panelist, speaking on a panel about building careers. Browne, who is also a doctoral candidate at the Harvard School of Public Health, knows the subject well.



Ruth Browne, MPP, MPH

Browne has been working in the public health field for 14 years, focusing primarily on health policy in New York. She joined the Arthur Ashe Institute in 1993, just five months after it opened. Browne says she found her job

through constant networking. The Institute, which addresses the social, cultural and behavioral issues affecting health, particularly in low-income urban areas, is in the neighborhood where she grew up. "As soon as I heard about

the plans for the Institute, I talked to everyone I knew who might be involved with the project," she says. "I wanted the job because it combined my interest in minority, immigrant and community health with program development and research. Plus, it's located in an academic health center, which is an environment I wanted to be in."

The Arthur Ashe Institute runs six core programs in four areas — clinical, health services and basic science research; community health; education and training of health professionals; and effective communication with kindred organizations. One of the programs is a Health Science Academy for high school students. Each week, a group of high-achieving immigrant and native-born African American and Latino students, who have demonstrated strength in math and science, come to the Institute for an hour of lecture by medical school students and faculty, and an hour of hands-on learning. The lab work focuses on anatomy, physiology and histology. The students also participate in a seminar series on urban health.

The Institute's health education and outreach programs include:

- AGAPE, in which Institute staff members go to African American congregations in Brooklyn to educate

clergy, nurses and members about HIV and women's health issues; teach relationship skills; and discuss grief and loss

- An educational intervention program in beauty salons through which staff members visit salons and teach customers about heart disease, sexual health, breast health, nutrition, organ donation, and smoking

- An educational program to teach people living with Sarcoidosis and their families about this debilitating autoimmune disease that affects African American women in the U.S. in disproportionately high numbers.

The Institute is also working on a program to educate teen-age athletes involved in competitive sports about sudden cardiac death. And they are developing an Asthma Center, which will provide outreach to children, parents and teachers about asthma. The Institute also sponsors conferences and seminars for health professionals and lay people each year.

With all the demands of her position, Browne has still maintained contact with one of the students she met at the BSCP Conference. "She ended up going to [University of] Michigan, my alma mater, and is interested in public health. I am happy to help her in any way I can," Browne says. ♦

Students Speak Out

Reflections on the BSCP Conference

by **ROMEO E. MORALES**
BOSTON UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

During my second year in medical school, I participated in the first Biomedical Science Careers Conference, where I met fellow students, scientists and clinicians. At the conference, I was assigned to a group that included three high school students, three college students, and three medical students. Dr. Ernesto Gonzalez, a dermatologist at Massachu-

setts General Hospital (Mass. General) in Boston, was the mentor assigned to our group.

I was impressed at the time by the amount of time Dr. Gonzalez obviously spent in preparation for this day. He had prepared folders for all of us with information on dermatology, as well as statistical information on the state of Hispanic health at the time. It was also clear that Dr. Gonzalez had carefully read all of our personal profiles, as he asked each of us to elaborate

on the achievements we had highlighted in the profiles.

It has been nearly three years since that conference, and I have developed a strong relationship with Dr. Gonzalez, who has advised me and guided my efforts as I applied for — and was granted — the opportunity to complete an elective in dermatology at Brigham and Women's Hospital. Three weeks before I began the elec-

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Yvette Roubideaux, M.D.

1996-97 Commonwealth Fund/Harvard University Fellow in Minority Health

Yvette Roubideaux, M.D., one of the first Harvard University Fellows in Minority Health Policy, was born in South Dakota and is a member of the Rosebud Sioux tribe. She was first exposed to health care as a child, when she regularly heard her relatives complain about the care they received at Indian Health Service. By the time she graduated from high school, Roubideaux had decided she wanted to become a physician, so she could help improve the quality of health care for Indian people.

Roubideaux received a B.A. from Harvard University in 1985, and went on to attend Harvard Medical School on a full scholarship from Indian Health Service. After completing residency training in Internal Medicine at the Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, she joined the Indian Health Service. "I had always planned to go to work at Indian Health Service, because that's where I felt I could make the greatest impact," Roubideaux explains. In addition, a condition of her scholarship was that she work for the Service for at least four years after she completed her education and training.

Roubideaux's first position with Indian Health Service was as a staff physician at San Carlos Indian Hospi-

tal, on the San Carlos Apache Indian Reservation in eastern Arizona. "The complexity of medical problems we had to treat presented a real challenge," she recalls, "especially because the hospital was underfunded and understaffed." After a year, Roubideaux was named Clinical Director, responsible for supervising the hospital's medical staff and clinical services. In that capacity, she improved the quality of the hospital's medical staff, helped improve the clinic's appointment system, and helped improve the inpatient services and Diabetes clinic.

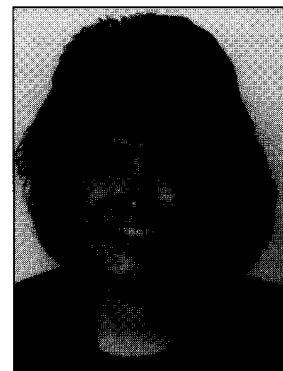
After three years at San Carlos, Roubideaux left to take a position at Hu Hu Kam Memorial Hospital, on the Pima Indian Reservation in Arizona. There, she treated patients in the clinic and emergency room. She also improved the hospital's tuberculosis program by updating policies, creating a model for tracking cases, and educating the staff on new guidelines for treatment. And she had the opportunity to watch the tribe assume management responsibilities for the hospital, which she says influenced her decision to focus on administrative and policy positions in Indian Health.

Commonwealth continued from page 1

All inquiries for application materials should be addressed to:

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Director, Commonwealth Fund/
Harvard University Fellowship
c/o Minority Faculty
Development Program
Harvard Medical School
164 Longwood Avenue, Rm. 210
Boston, MA 02115
Phone: (617) 432-2313
Fax: (617) 432-3834

Deadline for receipt of applications for the 1997-98 academic year is January 2, 1997. Selections will be made on March 15, 1997, and those selected will be notified on April 1, 1997. ♦



Yvette Roubideaux, M.D.

Student continued from page 2

tive, Dr. Gonzalez invited a classmate and me to attend Dermatology Ground Rounds with him at Mass. General. The opportunity proved to be immensely valuable to me in my elective. The professional relationships I forged three years ago at the Conference have helped me advance my career goals. In addition to Dr. Gonzalez, I have worked with Dr. Harley Haynes, director of the Dermatology Clinical Clerkship at

Brigham and Women's. Dr. Haynes introduced me to clinical dermatology and has become instrumental in directing my energy to obtain a research fellowship in the Division of Dermatology Research at Brigham and Women's.

I am now performing research in dermatology that may allow me to explore the role that keratinocytes may play in modulating contact hypersensitivity and cutaneous carcinogenesis. The project is fascinating, exciting, and challenging. But most importantly, it

could provide valuable insights into the pathogenesis of these disease processes in animal models, with potential implications in clinical areas.

It is clear that in order to meet my goal of a career in academic medicine, I must be able to combine good scholastic performance and scientific accomplishments with superb interpersonal skills. There is no question that the experience I gained by participating in the Biomedical Science Careers Conference has amplified my skills in all these areas. ♦

Resume Bank

In January, 1997, the Biomedical Science Careers Project (BSCP) will be setting up a Resume Bank, which will allow us to help match students with available internships and prospective jobs. After January 1, 1997, you may send us your resume with a cover letter indicating in which one of the following categories you would like your resume listed:

- Administration
- Allied Health
- Biotechnology
- Computer Science
- Life Science
- Math/Engineering
- Medicine
- Public Health/Environmental Health
- Social Sciences

A resume allows you to say who you are in listing your education, work experience, publications, presentations and any honors or awards you have received. Here are some tips that might be useful to you:

1. Always keep your resume current and ready to be given at a moment's notice. You would be surprised to know how many times you will be asked to fax your resume right away.

2. Resumes reflect who you are. They need to be grammatically correct, with perfect spelling. They should also be set up in an eye-appealing format.

3. Do not waste your money on fancy paper or gimmicks. A well-written, visually appealing resume gets more attention than beige parchment paper.

4. Do not include personal information, such as hobbies, height, weight, marital status, favorite sports, etc. It is considered unprofessional.

5. Do not exaggerate your education, lab responsibilities, or any work experiences. These can be verified easily. Resumes lead a paper trail and are difficult to correct as your career advances.

6. Start your resume by indicating your NAME, ADDRESS and a

BSCP Conferences

For students:

Environmental and Public Health Career Conference, October 26, 1996, Boston

The Business of Health Care Conference, February 22, 1997, location TBA

Skill Development Conference, April 5, 1997, location TBA

For registration or other information about any of the conferences above, contact Lise D. Kaye at (617) 452-0552.

For physicians in postdoctoral training, junior faculty, and residents:

Time Management, October 8, 1996,

Negotiation Skills, January 30, 1997

Conflict Management, April 30, 1997

For registration or other information about these conferences, contact Cathleen C. Dunham at (617) 452-4422.

Fellowships

Fuller Summer Fellowships

The Massachusetts division of the American Cancer Society is offering summer fellowships for undergraduates who are residents of Massachusetts or attend Massachusetts colleges or universities. The fellowships provide a \$2,500 stipend for 10 weeks of research in a laboratory in the Boston or Worcester area.

For information and/or an application, contact: The American Cancer Society, 50 Speen Street, Framingham, MA 01701. Telephone: (508) 270-4600.

Deadline for applications is February 1, 1997.

Selected Professionals Fellowships Program

The American Association of University Women Educational Foundation is now accepting applications for its Selected Professions Fellowship Program for the 1997-98 academic year. These fellowships are awarded on an annual basis to female scholars preparing to enter designated professions and other non-traditional career fields. The program, implemented in the early 1970s, addresses the underrepresentation of women in **architecture, business administration, computer science, engineering, math/statistics, law, and medicine**. Fellowships in law, medicine and business administration are limited to women of color. All applicants must be entering their final year of graduate or professional study in an eligible discipline in the 1997-98 academic year.

For more information, and/or an application, contact Cheryl A. Pack at (202) 728-7632.

TELEPHONE NUMBER where you can be reached.

7. Next, put a one-sentence, clearly-expressed OBJECTIVE.

8. Then, list your EDUCATION or WORK EXPERIENCE. The decision of which should come first depends on where you have the greatest number of achievements. Put that category first. Then list the other.

9. If you have received any HONORS or AWARDS, list them next.

10. Finally, list ARTICLES you have published or major PRESENTATIONS you have made.

11. Do not end a resume with a sentence that says, "References will

be supplied on request." Anyone reviewing your resume knows that.

Also, do not try to pass off friends as former bosses.

12. It is always a good idea to get one of your instructors, an advisor, or a mentor to review your resume before you send it anywhere.

13. You should always send your resume out with a cover letter that is short, well written and to the point. Make sure that the name and title of the addressee are 100% accurate. They are the first things the reviewer sees, and a misspelling or incorrect title does not make a positive first impression. ♦