



# QUEENS COLLEGE MARC NEWSLETTER 2007-2008

## Letter from the Editor

Dear Friends of MARC,  
Welcome to the second annual Queens College MARC Newsletter. The MARC staff of Queens College have established this newsletter to keep our MARC students, alumni, and special friends posted about everything that's going on with our program, students, and alumni. Look for our regular columns – alumni and student profiles, program updates, and student news. Feel free to suggest other features or columns for future issues and please send us your good news! Whether your news is professional (you just got awarded the Nobel Prize in Physiology) or personal (you just got married), we'd love to hear about it! In the meantime, enjoy your second issue of the newsletter, and then head back into the lab! Sincerely yours, The MARC Editorial Staff

## Program News

The Queens College MARC Program is going strong with the addition of new students for the fourth year in a row. Welcome to our new students:

- **Mr. Emmanuel Datan**, doing research with Dr. Zahra Zakeri
- **Mr. Jamar Whaley**, doing research with Dr. Robert Ranaldi
- **Mr. Andrew Hillman**, doing research with Dr. Ya Ching Hung

We also welcome back our juniors from last year, who are all busy working on their honors theses and trying to figure out what to do with their lives!

- \***Brian Estevez**, Mentor Dr. Z. Zakeri
- \***Donaldson Conserve**, Mentor Dr. J. Borod
- \***Lizbeth Nunez**, Mentor Dr. A. Melendez

- \***Fiorella Tapia-Ortiz**, Mentor Dr. Z. Zakeri
- \***George Papacharalambous**, Mentor Dr. E. Fjordingstad
- \***J. David Zapata**, Mentor Dr. S. Croll
- \***Gabriel Olivares**, Mentor Dr. S. Croll

Let's salute all of our MARC program alumni! Our most recent graduates, who left us in the spring of 2008, were:

- **Harold Gomes**, who worked with Dr. Brumberg: Harold has just returned from an exciting summer research program at Notre Dames, and is continuing to conduct research with Dr. Brumberg while finalizing his choices for the future
- **Michelle Bubnik** who worked with Dr. Halperin: After completing a summer research program at Columbia University, Michelle recently started her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology at the State University of New York at Buffalo, where she will continue to study ADHD in children.
- **Lester Zambrana**, who worked with Dr. Zakeri: After completing a summer research program at Columbia University, Lester continued to do research at Columbia and apply for the PhD program.
- **Evelyn Teran** spent the summer working at Queens College completing her research with Dr. Seeling, and now she has been accepted into the MS-to-PhD program. Evelyn was recently awarded the Bridge to the Doctorate program of the New York City Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority participation.

*We are so proud of all our students!*

## Alumni Profiles

### Ms. Michelle Bubnik



Michelle graduated from Queens College after spending six years in Dr. Jeffrey Halperin's laboratory. She started with Dr. Halperin during high school, and made Intel Semi-Finals using data collected in his laboratory. When she entered Queens College, she elected to continue her work with Dr. Halperin, and has earned one publication and two articles in preparation for her efforts. In addition, Michelle was selected to appear with Dr. Halperin on advertisements for Queens College spread across New York City. She can still be seen in many subway platforms and spread across the sides of city buses!

Michelle started her PhD this month at the State University of New York at Buffalo in Clinical Psychology. She has already started her research, which represents an expansion of her interest in ADHD. She is excited about her programs, and looks forward to pursuing her long-term goal of opening her own academic lab studying ADHD in children.

### Ms. Nancy Okeke



Nancy graduated from Queens College, and from our MARC program, two years ago. While here, Nancy was a strong achiever, completing a challenging research project in Dr. Stephane Boissinot's laboratory examining evolution of viral components.

Nancy decided that she wanted to become a clinician/researcher, and chose to pursue that goal via enrollment in a DDS program. After being accepted to multiple programs, Nancy elected to attend Columbia University. Nancy is currently a third-year dental student, but has never given up her love of research. In the summer between her first and second years of dental school, for instance, she was selected as an NIH scholar, and traveled to the National Institutes of Dental and Craniofacial Research to conduct research.

Nancy's long-term goal is to become a dentist who conducts research in public health-related dental issues. She hopes that, in this way, she will make a real difference in the lives and health of others.

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*Check out our revised web pages at <http://qcpages.qc.cuny.edu/marc>*