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.
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.

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.

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

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.

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

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.

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.

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.

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.
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Partner Institutions

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Dartmouth College  
Emory University  
George Washington University  
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai  
Johns Hopkins University  
Louisiana State University (LSU)  
Louisiana State University (LSU) Health Sciences Center  
Meharry Medical College  
New York University School of Medicine  
Tulane University  
Tulane University Health Science Center  
University of California Davis  
University of California San Francisco  
University of Chicago  
University of Rochester  
University of Wisconsin Madison