

## 2006-2007 MIE-STEM FACULTY MINI-GRANTS

### 2006-2007 STUDENT RESEARCH ASSISTANT

“Elucidating the Evolution of Alternative Spliced Exons within the Arthropod Lineage of the DSCAM Family”

**The Center for Undergraduate Research (CUR):** How did you find out about working on this research proposal?

**Jeffery Brown (JB):** I was invited to participate in a summer research program by Dr. DiMaggio while completing the spring semester of my sophomore year. She announced this research opportunity in her Organic II lab class and I inquired as how to join.

**CUR:** What is your contribution to this proposal?

**JB:** I have contributed effort and analysis into the synthesis of PAMAM dendrimers. I have presented the proposal through poster presentation at the Eli Lilly, Festival of Scholars, and ACS meeting. I also presented the proposal for the Chemistry department in order to inform and engage new students in the opportunities for research.

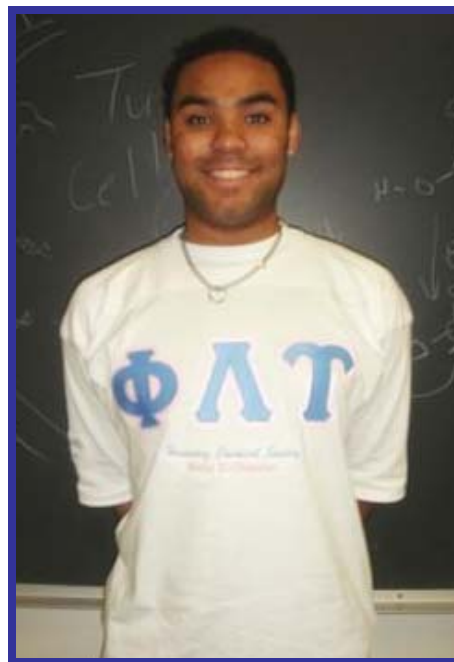
**CUR:** How does this proposal fit into your academic and social schedule?

**JB:** The research is an added responsibility to my daily work load. As a full time student and Residential Assistant, I am still able to fit research into my schedule. Social life is sacrificed to manage these tasks; however, the impact is not so bad. I still have the weekends and evenings most of the time. Also, the effort I put into this proposal can count toward academic credits in an upper level chemistry.

**CUR:** Will this proposal assist you in your future academic/or career plans? If so, explain.

**JB:** Yes. The proposal involves investigation in the biomedical sciences. As a student applying for medical school, the participation I have in this project bears some weight on my consideration. The participation in this project also provides an opportunity to apply concepts learned in class.

**CUR:** Do you have any recommendations for future student assistants who will work in a similar field?



**JEFFREY BROWN**

CLASSIFICATION	SENIOR
AGE	21
MAJOR & MINOR	CHEMISTRY (BIOLOGY & PHILOSOPHY)
HOMETOWN	SCHERTZ, TX

**JB:** Get started as soon as possible so that you can see the project develop further. The longer you work on a project, the better you get to know the procedures and concepts behind it. You will also gain more experience.