

## Diversity Project 2000

Diversity Project 2000 is a mentoring and leadership program designed to nurture the development of psychologists for a global community. Program participants represent the diverse ethnic and racial population groups that comprise the culturally pluralistic community across our nation.

The following is a brief summary of the program and an update on the current activities of the DP 2000 Summer Institute graduate student mentors. The latter catered to 20 student participants from across the country during the August 2-5, 2000, APA Annual Convention in Washington, DC.

The DP 2000 participants were exposed to a program that included leadership exercises, career choices in psychology, networking with professional psychologists, and a tour and presentations at the American Psychology Association's head office. Presentations included Dr. Lillian Comas-Diaz on Role reversal in the psychologist of color– white client dyad and Dr. Nicole Alford, forensic psychologist, on Psychology and the law. In addition, the participants heard from Dr. Kim Nickerson, Assistant Director, about the APA Minority Fellowship Program (MFP), Drs. Helen Scott, Kimberly Jeffries Leonard, and Anita Brown on the OEMA-administered school violence prevention project, and Drs. Lula Beatty and Carolyn Furr-Holden on research opportunities in the NIDA/NIH (National Institute of Drug Abuse/ National Institutes of Health).

The program included lunch at the George Washington University–Marvin Center with the dean of the School of Arts and Sciences, Dr. Lester Lefton, the chairman of the department of psychology, Dr. David Silber, and other professors of psychology. Participants visited the Howard University Campus including the new million dollar ilab (information laboratory), the book store, founders library, and the Van Ness campus. At Van Ness, participants were provided with lunch and presentations on the Center for Drug Abuse Research (CDAR) and the Center for Research on the Education of Students Placed at Risk (CRESPAR). Presenters included among others, Drs. Jean Bailey, Velma La Point, and Robert Jagers of the CDAR and CRESPAR programs.

We are proud to introduce you to the following graduate students who served as mentors for the summer institute:

**Teresa Wanda Proctor**, is an alumna of the DP 1994 program and is currently a graduate student at Bowie State University in the Guidance and Counseling program. Wanda spends three days a week counseling children with serious emotional and mental issues at

Morningside Elementary school as part of her graduate internship program, while also working on her research and thesis. She works for a family-owned consulting company part-time that lobbies local, state, and federal agencies and is a full-time mother of two pre-teen children. She has "...no life outside of the above". Her contact is pmcwanda@aol.com.

**Orville Jackson III**, a former DP 2000 student, has been busy recently preparing his data to present at the Society for Neuroscience annual meeting in New Orleans. Orville stated recently that he has ... "been spending the last couple of months trying to make sure my data are good to go. I'm on the verge of finishing this experiment which has been a burden from day 1!. In a few days it'll be over except for the write-up, and you better believe I will be one happy grad student".

Apart from his doctoral research at Harvard, Orville is teaching a seminar on general psychology for sophomores, which he is enjoying, and teaching 3 units on visual perception, emotion, and learning and memory (his favorite!). He just moved into a new apartment..."Rent continues to be exorbitant here" he states, and on October 29 he celebrated his 30th birthday. So far he claims that... "the mantle of aged wisdom has yet to settle on my shoulders though, I'll give it a few days". Orville will be the co-director of the 2001 DP 2000 Institute. He can be reached at: Orville Jackson III, Department of Psychology, Harvard University, William James Hall, 33 Kirkland Street, Cambridge, MA 02138, ojackson@wjh.harvard.edu, 617/ 496-5909(office), 617/496-3122 (fax).

**Tawa Witko, PsyD**, also a former DP 2000 student, is currently working as a registered psychologist at the United American Indian Involvement, Inc., teaching part time at Fullerton Community College, and (as if that weren't enough) is also working on her first book. Tawa has secured all the authors for her book and sent out a prospectus to five different publishers from whom she is awaiting feedback. It takes about 4 to 6 weeks, she states. In the meantime she is trying to have a life, she does not know how good a job she's doing but claims that "I am trying... You can put in your article that I am psychotic." Tawa will also be a co-director of the 2001 DP 2000 Institute. Her e-mail address is witkotm@aol.com.

**Keith W. LeQuay**, is surviving another semester in the Social Psychology Doctoral Program at Howard University. He is laboring on a thesis project at this time while engaged part-time at the APA's Office of Ethic Minority Affairs (OEMA) on their National Institute for General Medical Sciences-sponsored minority biomedical training grant. Keith is looking forward to his comprehensive exams in the spring, continuing research work on drug dependency data for an Employee Assistance Provider, and developing his research on "sense making" in organizations. He eagerly anticipates his re-acquaintance with life outside of a graduate program. His e-mail address is klequay@howard.edu.