

December 9, 2009

Greetings:

The *Minorities Striving and Pursuing Higher Degrees of Success Professional Development Program (MS PHD'S PDP)* will again sponsor students to attend the '09 Fall AGU Meeting. On behalf of Dr. Ashanti Johnson, Program Director, and Dr. Vivian Williamson Whitney, Program Administrator, we invite AGU members to serve as mentors to this year's cohort of minority undergraduate and graduate students. The one-on-one interaction of students with established scientists continues to be a highlight of their experience. If you are not attending AGU this year, we invite you to forward this invitation to your colleagues, list-servs, program administrators, etc.

AGU Science Meeting Mentors are asked to:

- Communicate with selected mentee(s) before the Fall AGU meeting to discuss common academic interests;
- Attend an informal mentor/mentee introduction either on
  - Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm – 7:30 pm, Moscone West, Registration Area
  - OR Monday, December 14<sup>th</sup>, 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm, Student Lounge at the Career Center, Moscone Center Exhibit Hall
  - OR Monday, December 14<sup>th</sup>, (alternate session for anyone not able to attend either session above) 7:30 pm – 8:00 pm (Room TBA Specific times and locations will be confirmed before AGU meeting);
- Discuss a minimum of four presentations with your mentee(s) during the meeting;
- Facilitate networking by introducing your mentee(s) to other scientists with similar interests; and,
- Offer mentee(s) academic and career advice.

We certainly hope that you will accept our invitation to serve as an AGU Meeting Mentor. If you are available to serve please complete the brief on-line mentor survey found at [http://www.msphds.org/mentor\\_survey.asp](http://www.msphds.org/mentor_survey.asp). If you completed the on-line mentor survey previously, you will not have to complete another one. You may, however, update your survey if needed.

Afterward, please click on the following link to review student profiles.

<http://www.msphds.org/profiles.asp?type=&cohort=2009-2010+%28Cohort+7%29&gender=&ethnicity=&institution>. Please select two or three students with research/academic areas that best align with your interests. It is our intent to assign to each AGU meeting mentor student mentees of their choice.

P.O. Box 607 ~ 281 Main Street ~ Damariscotta, ME 04543

Phone: 207-563-5929 Fax: 207-563-6069

Please send your RSVP with the names of your selected students to Dr. Vivian Williamson Whitney, [vivian.williamson@sbcglobal.net](mailto:vivian.williamson@sbcglobal.net), with copy to [pdp@msphds.org](mailto:pdp@msphds.org),

After receipt of your selection of student mentee(s), we will forward their contact information and a copy of the *MS PHD'S* agenda.

Thank you again for assisting the next generation of scientists to navigate within the AGU community. Please share this mentoring opportunity with your colleagues who will attend the '09 AGU Fall meeting.

If additional information is needed, please do not hesitate to contact us at:  
[pdp@msphds.org](mailto:pdp@msphds.org).

Sincerely,

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