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SOM: School of Medicine
ECAS: Emory College of Arts and Science
SPH: School of Public Health

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AUC TEACHING FACULTY
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*Former FIRST Fellow

Fellowships in Research and Science Teaching

Participating Schools
Emory University
Atlanta, Georgia
Clark Atlanta University
Atlanta, Georgia
Morehouse College
Atlanta, Georgia
Morehouse School of Medicine
Atlanta, Georgia
Spelman College
Atlanta, Georgia

Co-Director, Professional Development
Lou Ann Brown, PhD
Emory University School of Medicine

Co-Director, Research
Anita Corbett, PhD
Emory College of Arts and Sciences

Co-Director, Teaching:
Arri Eisen, PhD
Emory College of Arts and Sciences

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PROGRAM Overview

The Fellowships in Research and Science Teaching (FIRST) program combines the faculties of one of the top national research universities and four of the minority serving institutions in the Atlanta metropolitan area with 5.4 million people to increase the quantity and quality of postdoctoral fellows achieving careers in biological/biomedical sciences. The program of interdisciplinary research education provides the foundation for investigating cellular and molecular mechanisms and a teaching mentorship that includes instruction in pedagogy, classroom technologies, mentorship of undergraduates, teaching experience, course development and production of web-based courses. The program faculty have the experience and expertise to provide the critical foundation for outstanding postdoctoral professional development. The program faculty are members of 16 biological sciences departments in the 5 schools.

FIRST is one of only a handful of nationally competitive institutional postdoctoral research and education programs funded by the National Institutes of Health. The postdoctoral fellows will spend most of their time and effort in the research laboratory of their chosen research mentor (see Research Faculty). For one semester, FIRST fellows will attend weekly classes in teaching and working in pairs will develop teaching skills and course materials. Then, while working with a teaching mentor, fellows will finally teach an undergraduate science course at one of the Atlanta University Center schools (AUC).

ELIGIBILITY

In order to qualify for this program, postdoctoral fellows:
- Must have received PhD degree or equivalent.
- Must show scientific potential.
- Must show an interest in teaching.
- Must not have already completed more than 2 years of postdoctoral research.
- Must be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident.

STIPEND

Each fellow will be supported for a maximum of four years. The fellow will identify a research mentor who agrees to fund the initial year and then the remaining three years will be funded through FIRST. The annual amount of each stipend is based on the recommended stipend levels for individuals receiving support through institutional or individual National Research Service Awards (NRSA).

Health insurance is available for single person coverage with family option for all fellows through Emory as an employee benefit with the University or other contribution. In addition, an institutional allotment for research and/or teaching supplies is available as well as travel monies for fellows to attend at least one scientific meeting per year.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Professional Development Workshops: Support will be given for fellows to organize as well as attend workshops focused on enhancing their career development. These workshops specialize in career opportunities, resume and grant writing, interviewing techniques, critical thinking, mentoring, etc. Emory University's Office of Postdoctoral Education also offers many career services workshops which the fellows are strongly encouraged to attend.

Internet Course Development: FIRST fellows and faculty will attend an intensive full-time, one-week workshop during the summer on the technical and practical production of Web pages for course presentation on the World Wide Web. This course includes three specialists in education, graphic design, and image production.

Instruction in the Responsible Conduct of Research: Through the Office of Postdoctoral Education, FIRST fellows will attend a short course, Values in Science: An Introduction to the Responsible Conduct of Research. Case studies are analyzed and on-site visits to research facilities are performed.

Annual IRACDA Conference: Each year fellows attend a teaching/research workshop with other similar programs across the country.

CONTACT US

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