Workshop on Excellence Empowered by a Diverse Academic Workforce: Achieving Racial & Ethnic Equity in Chemistry









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Sheila Browne, Mount Holyoke College
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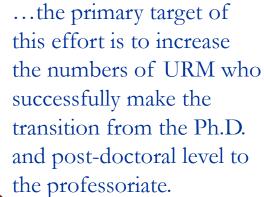
Departments that attended the URM Workshop:

- 1. University of California at Berkeley: Department of Chemistry
- 2. University of Texas at Austin: Dept. of Chemistry and Biochemistry
- 3. University of California at Los Angeles: Dept. of Chemistry and Biochemistry
- 4. University of Florida: Dept. of Chemistry
- 5. Harvard University: Dept. of Chemistry and Chemical Biology
- 6. Texas A&M University: Dept. of Chemistry
- 7. Cornell University: Chemistry and Chemical Biology
- 8. Texas A&M University: Dept. of Chemistry
- 9. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign: Dept. of Chemistry
- 10. Massachusetts Institute of Technology: Chemistry Department
- 11. Stanford University: Chemistry Department
- 12. California Institute of Technology: Division of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering
- 13. Pennsylvania State University: Department of Chemistry

- 14. University of California at San Diego: Dept. of Chemistry and Biochemistry
- 15. University of Wisconsin-Madison: Dept. of Chemistry
- 16. University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill: Dept. of Chemistry
- 17. University of Colorado-Boulder: Dept. of Chemistry and Biochemistry
- 18. University of Michigan Ann Arbor: Dept. of Chemistry
- 19. Ohio State University: Dept. of Chemistry
- 20. University of Puerto Rico Rio Piedras Campus: Dept. of Chemistry
- 21. Northwestern University: Dept. of Chemistry
- 22. Indiana University: Dept. of Chemistry
- 23. Georgia Institute of Technology: Chemistry and Biochemistry
- 24. Florida State University: Dept. of Chemistry
- 25. Michigan State University: Dept. of Chemistry
- 26. University of Maryland College Park: Dept. of Chemistry and Biochemistry
- 27. University of New Mexico: Dept. of Chemistry and Chemical Biology
- 28. University of Oklahoma: Dept. of Chemistry and Biochemistry
- 29. University of California San Francisco: Dept. of Chemistry

- 30. University of Massachusetts Amherst: Dept. of Chemistry
- 31. Rutgers New Brunswick: Dept. of Chemistry
- 32. Oklahoma State University: Dept. of Chemistry
- 33. Oregon State University: Dept. of Chemistry
- 34. Purdue University: Dept. of Chemistry
- 35. University of Chicago: Dept. of Chemistry
- 36. University of Minnesota: Dept. of Chemistry
- 37. University of Pennsylvania: Dept. of Chemistry
- 38. University of Puerto Rico Mayaguez: Dept. of Chemistry
- 39. University of Southern California: Dept. of Chemistry
- 40. Princeton University: Dept. of Chemistry
- 41. University of Alaska Fairbanks: Dept. of Chemistry and Biochemistry
- 42. Yale University: Dept. of Chemistry
- 43. University of Pittsburgh: Dept. of Chemistry
- 44. SUNY Stony Brook: Dept. of Chemistry
- 45. Arizona State University: Dept. of Chemistry and Biochemistry
- 46. University of California at Irvine: Dept. of Chemistry

Luis Echegoyen of the National Science Foundation





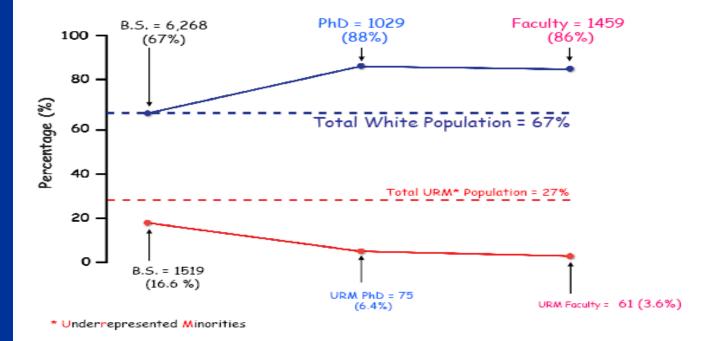
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Major Topics Covered in Workshop

- Recognition of the existence and effects of implicit bias
- Creation of an appropriate working climate
- Design of strategies for effective recruiting and retention
- Effective mentoring and empowerment
- Diversity as a planned event



FROM B.S. TO FACULTY: THE PIPELINE FOR U.S. CITIZEN ETHNIC GROUP REPRESENTATION IN CHEMISTRY in 2003



Bottom Line!

Our nation needs to take advantage of the excellence inherent in the growing percentage of URM in order to maintain a sufficient supply of domestic Ph.D.s.

Summary of the Problem

- Ph.D. production is flat in all groups, but Ph.D.s from U.S. citizens and permanent residents have dropped considerably over the last decade.
- The number of URM faculty is tiny compared to white faculty.
- Relative to the percentage of their population, few URM Ph.D.s and postdocs are being produced.
- Even worse, an even smaller percentage of the URM Ph.D.s and postdocs are recruited by the top universities.
- In the coming decades, the dominant pool of potential scientists and engineers will shift from the white community to URM.



Implicit Bias!

- A father and his son were in a terrible car accident.
- The man was killed and the son was taken to a hospital emergency room in need of immediate surgery.
- A surgeon walked into the emergency room, saw the boy and said, "I can't operate on this young man – he's my son!"
- How can this be?

Consequences of Implicit Bias

subjective evaluation

unproductive work environments and unwelcoming climates

Sylvia Hurtado of UCLA: Common Mindsets on Diversity

- The zero sum game. Diversity and excellence are competing concepts; one has to forgo one in order to attain the other.
- Survival of the fittest. Our courses have to differentiate between those who have the talent for science and those who do not.
- **Diversity is not my responsibility**. I teach science. What does diversity have to do with my work?

Summary of Findings

- Implicit bias is a subtle factor pervasive in all our interactions that undermines the progress of URM candidates at all levels of the pipeline from B.S. to faculty.
- The statistics on URM in chemistry are unacceptable; yet have changed very little in over a decade.
- Mentoring of URM students, postdocs and faculty has not been effective and needs the attention of research sponsors and department heads.
- A network for identifying excellent URM students, postdocs and faculty does not exist and needs to be established...
- The academic climate for URM has been largely unsupportive, indifferent, or in some cases even hostile...
- The overall chemistry community needs to commit to changes

Positive Actions!

- Recognition of the existence and effects of implicit bias
- An appropriate working climate
- Strategies for effective recruiting and retention
- Mentoring and empowerment of Diversity as a planned event through courses of actions accessible to the Chairs of chemistry departments

Recommendations!

See URM Report.

http://chemchairs.uoregon.edu

Gender and Diversity Workshops Impact!!!

- January 9, 2008
- Harvard Establishes Postdoc Program for Underrepresented Groups
- Harvard University will award 12 new postdoctoral fellowships in chemistry this spring that are particularly aimed at women and members of ethnic minority groups. The fellows will study for a year in Harvard's department of chemistry and chemical biology, and will have the opportunity to apply for a second year of fellowship money.

MIT Materials Program

Collage of attendees!













COACh Survey of Chem Department Chairs

Racial and Ethnic Diversity Workshop

Barriers that slow the progress of (URM) Faculty % Rated as moderate to very important	CHE M Chairs Pre
Subtle biases against URM faculty that accumulate over the years	70 %
	740/
URM getting heavier service responsibilities relative to majority colleagues	74 %
URM having less opportunities to be mentored by top chemists	35 %
Departmental climate not supportive of URM faculty	45 %
URM difficulty in compet ing for the best graduate students	21 %
Racial-ethnic discrimination in the peer review process of papers and grants	21 %
URM being excluded from important departmental and institutional decisions	16 %

Scale: not an issue, not important, somewhat important, moderately important, very important



What effect did the Racial and Ethnic Diversity workshop have on Chemistry Chairs?

Barriers that slow the progress of (URM) Faculty % Rated as moderate to very important	CHEM Chairs Pre	CHEM Chairs Post
Subtle biases against URM faculty that accumulate over the years	70	100
URM getting heavier service responsibilities relative to majority colleagues	73	84
URM having less opportunities to be mentored by top chemists	35	68
Departmental climate not supportive of URM faculty	45	61
URM difficulty in competing for the best graduate students	21	58
Racial-ethnic discrimination in the peer review process of papers and grants	21	37
URM being excluded from important departmental and institutional decisions	16	26

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Support for Symposium

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