U. S. Education Official Delivers Keynote Speech

Dr. Debra Saunders-White, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Higher Education Programs in the US Department of Education, was the keynote speaker for the PhD Pipeline Opportunity Program’s 3rd Annual Partners Workshop, held September 13-14 at Duke University’s Fuqua School of Business.

Dr. Saunders-White noted that it is important for advancing our economy that we support higher education and that we allow students equitable access to education through grants and other funding mechanisms. She discussed the need for all Americans to value and pursue quality education. Also, she emphasized the importance of college completion, not just attendance. Dr. Saunders-White applauded the work of the PhD Pipeline Opportunity Program as a much needed innovation in higher education to encourage the participation of underrepresented populations in faculty ranks.

Dr. Keith Whitfield, Vice Provost for Academic Affairs at Duke University, presented a plaque of appreciation to Dr. Saunders-White. Dr. Whitfield, a renowned neuropsychologist, discussed the importance of the PhD Pipeline Opportunity Program to diversity at Duke University and throughout academia.

PhD Pipeline Partner Institution News

The PhD Pipeline Opportunity Program welcomes two new Partner institutions and applauds the 65th anniversary of the MBA Program at Partner Institution Clark-Atlanta University. Our new Partners are Oakwood University in Huntsville, Alabama and Allen University in Columbia, South Carolina.

Dean Hyacinth Burton leads the School of Business and serves as the PhD Pipeline Faculty Associate for Oakwood University. One of Oakwood’s distinguished alumni is Dr. Milton Blackmon, Associate Dean at Duke University’s Trinity College. Among his other duties, Dr. Blackmon serves as the pre-business academic dean for Duke undergraduates. He is a member of the PhD Pipeline’s Duke/Fuqua Advisory Board.

Dr. Flavia Eldermire is the Faculty Associate for Allen University. She is also the Chair of the Division of Business Administration at Allen. Her daughter is a PhD student at USC’s Darla Moore School of Business. Dr. Eldemire heard about the PhD Pipeline after two of her faculty members met PhD Pipeline participants at the 2011 PhD Project Conference in Chicago.
The 2012 Summer Institute Scholars participated in numerous workshops and activities focused on their preparation for higher education. This year’s diverse group of scholars (see list on page 4) represented 16 colleges and universities. Scholars toured TIAA-CREF in Charlotte, NC, North Carolina A&T State University in Greensboro, NC, and the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond in VA. One of the memorable benefits of being a PhD Pipeline Scholar is networking with business faculty and interacting with other scholars from across the nation. During the two-week institute held at Duke University’s Fuqua School of Business, business faculty from 12 universities shared information about applying to graduate school. They gave insights regarding graduate level coursework.

In addition, with corporate team building activities, research methodology and finance case workshops, GMAT preparatory review sessions by Bell Curves, a workshop on personal branding, and an opportunity to practice their research presentations with the Durham Toastmasters group, the scholars had a well versed overview of pursuing a PhD degree.

All scholars and alumni scholars are encouraged to apply to the PhD Project Annual Conference, and continue learning about programs that will further nurture interest in pursuing a PhD in Business fields.

Thank you, 2012 PhD Pipeline Summer Institute Presenters & Staff


Diverse Issues in Higher Ed.: Frank Matthews; Ernst & Young: Ryan Kist; Just Plain Etiquette: George Scott

Many Thanks to our 2012 Summer Institute Staff:

Anita Tapp (Administrative Coordinator); Zoelene Hill, Ibrahim Keita, Salama Freed (Academic Coordinators); Jesse Huddleston and Charisma Nelson (Senior Program Coordinators)

Beyond Social Media: Influence of the PhD Pipeline

The PhD Pipeline Opportunity Program has used media to connect the PhD Pipeline’s partners and participants. Some of the alumni of the Summer Institute have used the PhD Pipeline Facebook page to comment about the influence of the PhD Pipeline in their education and careers. Michael Joyner, 2011 Summer Institute Scholar, recently commented on Facebook about his “rewarding opportunity to work under world class business faculty and gain practical experience,” in the G.W. Carver Research Program at the University of Arkansas. Post your comments and invite your friends to join in the conversation on our Facebook page.

Keep us informed! Please send your academic and professional accomplishments stories to phdpipeline@duke.edu (with the Subject line SCHOLAR NEWS)
Dr. Martin Asher, Adjunct Professor of Finance, Director of the Research and Scholars Program, and Director of the Joseph Wharton Scholars Program at the University of Pennsylvania’s Wharton School of Business led a session on “Preparing Undergraduates for Research Careers.” He discussed a number of programs and activities at the PhD Pipeline Opportunity Program, from Partner institutions to meet and share best practices for (1) on-campus workshops, (2) increasing awareness of the PhD Pipeline Opportunity Program, and (3) additional ways to enhance and implement the PhD Pipeline’s goals.

Dr. Debra Saunders-White, from the US Department of Education, gave the keynote speech at the Workshop’s opening dinner (see cover story). Dr. Luke Powery, Dean of the Duke University Chapel, provided the invocation. Vice Provost Keith Whitfield brought greetings and remarks from the University, and Dean William "Bill" Boulding welcomed the attendees to the Fuqua School of Business.

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Program Highlights: On-Campus Workshops Progress in Year Two

Entering the second academic calendar year of the PhD Pipeline Opportunity Program, many partner institutions may decide to maintain their first year on-campus workshop schedules, and some may begin to build a new workshop curriculum primarily focused on education about the PhD Pipeline. Some partner institutions leverage connections with nearby colleges and universities. Dr. Edward Davis, Faculty Associate at Clark Atlanta U., shares information about the PhD Pipeline with faculty from Morehouse College and Spelman College. There are many students who do not yet know about the benefits of earning a PhD in Business related fields. The PhD Pipeline Opportunity Program provides resources to numerous partner institutions, through the use of on-campus workshops for undergraduate students. This year partner institutions will continue to attract students to the PhD Pipeline through various channels including social media, student clubs and organizations, and prospective student workshops.

PhD Pipeline In the News

- Visit our website: www.phdpipeline.org
- Friend us and post comments on: PhD Pipeline Opportunity Program Facebook
Let us feature you in future newsletter editions: send your news to phdpipeline@duke.edu (with the Subject line NEWS).

Congratulations to Jesse Huddleston, PhD Pipeline Residence Assistant, who is pursuing a Master’s of Science in Counseling at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro!

Reflections from the Director

Designed to help address the critical shortage of under-represented (African-American, Hispanic-American and Native-American) faculty in business schools, the PhD Pipeline Opportunity Program is made possible by the support of committed stakeholders. We provide important information and motivation for undergraduates to undertake the curriculum preparation to obtain doctoral degrees in business. The effectiveness of this initiative is clear: 15 diverse Partner institutions, a number which continues to grow; inquiries from community college level to 20+ years since college; Summer Institute participants from Massachusetts to Florida to Texas to Utah and in-between; etc. As the PhD Pipeline moves to enhance initial FIPSE grant funding, your support is even more essential to the educational aspirations we inspire and nurture!