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The College Fund/UNCF USAMRMC Program for Historically Black Colleges and Universities

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In conducting research using animals, the investigator(s) adhered to the "Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals," prepared by the Committee on Care and use of Laboratory Animals of the Institute of Laboratory Resources, national Research Council (NIH Publication No. 86-23, Revised 1985).

For the protection of human subjects, the investigator(s) adhered to policies of applicable Federal Law 45 CFR 46.

In conducting research utilizing recombinant DNA technology, the investigator(s) adhered to current guidelines promulgated by the National Institutes of Health.

In the conduct of research utilizing recombinant DNA, the investigator(s) adhered to the NIH Guidelines for Research Involving Recombinant DNA Molecules.

In the conduct of research involving hazardous organisms, the investigator(s) adhered to the CDC-NIH Guide for Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories.

PI - Signature 9/4/99

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INTRODUCTION:

This serves as The College Fund/UNCF Infrastructure Development Assistance Program (IDAP) Final Report covering the period August 15, 1998 - August 14, 1999 for the U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command (USAMRMC) Program for Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU). The purpose of the program was to increase USAMRMC involvement with HBCUs and minority institutions (MIs) by focusing on minority serving medical colleges and institutions with the capabilities to assist USAMRMC in medical/bio-medical, scientific, engineering and mathematical research. This report describes The College Fund's second and final year program execution and accomplishments. The findings for this report indicate that The College Fund successfully provided a pool of qualified candidates, needed opportunities to HBCU/MI faculty and students, and increased the level of USAMRMC involvement with the HBCU/MI communities as encouraged by the Presidential Executive Order 12876.

BODY:

ASSUMPTIONS:

For the past decade, various reports from the Department of Defense (DoD) have recommended that the agency intensify its efforts to increase the participation of HBCUs in its programs. DoD's HBCU/MI program has established a goal of 5 percent for the total combined amount of DoD funds obligated for contracts and subcontracts to HBCU/MI. Although DoD may have achieved this goal for the past few years, there have been many problems and considerable concern from DoD's perspective about its HBCU/MI program. Only about 5 percent of nations over 500 HBCUs/MIs regularly respond to solicitations or receive awards. Set-asides for single DoD awards rarely generate more than a few proposals, and few DoD prime contractors know about HBCU/MI capabilities. Also, few HBCU/MI faculty and students participate in faculty fellowships and student internships at DoD facilities.

The majority of the HBCUs lack the institutional and administrative infrastructures to compete for DoD grants and contracts because they are primarily undergraduate teaching institutions. Many, however, are undertaking research projects relevant to DoD but have not yet learned how to develop mutually beneficial partnerships with DoD. Because they have received few if any DoD awards, many of these institutions lack knowledge, experience, and confidence to participate in DoD programs. These circumstances certainly apply to USAMRMC, which is striving to increase the involvement of HBCUs in its programs.

PROCEDURES:

During fiscal year 1996 The College Fund submitted an unsolicited proposal to USAMRMC to address the above issues and assist USAMRMC in increasing their involvement with the HBCU/MI community. On September 5, 1997 USAMRMC established the "U.S. Army Medical Research and
Materiel Command (USAMRMC) Program for Historically Black Colleges and Universities. The College Fund/UNCF Infrastructure Development Assistance Program (IDAP) was awarded Cooperative Agreement No. DAMD17-97-2-7010 to implement the program. This cooperative agreement between USAMRMC and The College Fund was established as a four-year effort. The first year was designated an administrative period for The College Fund in close cooperation with USAMRMC to establish the parameters and criterion of a national program that supports HBCU involvement with implementation/evaluation in the final three years. The elements of the program included the HBCU/MI Mentoring Program, the Faculty Fellowship/Student Internship Program, the Intergovernmental Personnel Act (IPA) Exchange Program, and Technical Assistance Workshop/Seminars.

On May 5, 1998 the U.S. Army Medical Research Acquisition Activity (USAMRAA) directed The College Fund/UNCF to terminate the following programs:

- HBCU/MI Mentoring Program
- Intergovernmental Personnel Act (IPA) Exchange Program
- Technical Assistance Workshop/Seminars

Modification P80001 dated July 22, 1998 to Cooperative Agreement DAMD17-97-2-7010 continued The College Fund/UNCF’s coordination of The Faculty Fellowship/Student Internship Program for three years.

DISCUSSION/RESULTS:

Faculty Fellowship/Student Internship Program. The following summarizes the initiatives and efforts taken by UNCF for continuation of the USAMRMC Faculty Fellowship and Student Internship Programs.

- Developed schedule for program continuation to include distribution of applications, return of applications to The College Fund, review by USAMRMC laboratories and notification of selected faculty/students.
- Developed announcement and application for both programs.
- Working with LTC Claudia A. Oglivie, determined and developed list of HBCU/MI medical colleges and institutions with allied sciences and medical related disciplines from the US Department of Education published list. List filtered to include only those institutions in reasonable proximity to the following USAMRMC Laboratories:
  
  - U.S. Army Aeromedical Research Laboratory (USAARL), Fort Rucker, AL
  - U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research (USAISR), Fort Sam Houston, TX
  - U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense (USAMRICD), Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD
  - U.S. Army Research Institute of Environmental Medicine (USARIEM), Natick, MA
  - Walter Reed Army Institute of Research (WRAIR), Washington, DC
  - DoD Telemedicine and Advanced Technology Research Center, Fort Detrick, MD
• Created database of HBCU/MI colleges, universities, faculty and staff in science, biology, physics, chemistry, medical, veterinary, pharmacy, and mathematics departments.

• The College Fund mailed Faculty Fellowship and Student Internship Program announcements and applications to HBCUs/MIs on December 21, 1998 (Appendix 1 and 2). UNCF mailed a total of 244 faculty and student announcements and applications to HBCU/MI presidents, faculty, and staff. The reduced number of applications mailed was based on the decision made by USAMRMC that each laboratory would determine the amount of stipend provided to selected faculty and students and that a housing stipend would not be included. This decision limited candidates to those who either live in close proximity to a laboratory or who can make arrangements for or can pay their own housing expenses.

• Deadline for submission to The College Fund was February 28, 1999. UNCF received, screened, and forwarded on March 15, 1999, seven faculty and five student applications representing 10 HBCUs to LTC Oglivie for review and consideration for the USAMRMC Faculty Fellowship and Student Internship Programs for FY99.

Issues/Lessons Learned:

• Program announcement and application should be mailed to HBCUs/MIs, faculty and students no later than November 15 each year.

• USAMRMC provided The College Fund/UNCF names of selected faculty on May 20, 1999.

• Selection date may not have allowed sufficient time for successful faculty applicants to plan for the summer program. Alternate plans may have already been made.

• Restricting the program to candidates that live in close proximity to the laboratories severely limits the pool of possible faculty/students that can participate.

The College Fund/UNCF successfully provided to the USAMRMC Faculty Fellowship and Student Internship Programs a pool of qualified candidates, needed opportunities to HBCU/MI faculty and students, and increased the level of USAMRMC involvement with the HBCU/MI communities as encouraged by the Presidential Executive Order 12876.

RECOMMENDATIONS (IN RELATION TO STATEMENT OF WORK):

On June 10, 1999 the US Army Medical Research Acquisition Activity (USAMRAA) directed The College Fund/UNCF terminate DAMD17-97-2-7010, The College Fund/UNCF-USAMRMC Program for Historically Black Colleges and Universities. The statement of work should have been modified to more specifically articulate the desire results that USAMRAA hoped to achieve.
CONCLUSION:

The establishment of the U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command four-part program was an innovative approach to providing much needed opportunities to and increasing the involvement of the nations historically black colleges and universities, and minority institutions in USAMRMC programs. The College Fund was proud to have been selected and awarded the cooperative agreement to implement these programs. Implementation by The College Fund/UNCF of the four part cooperative agreement, which included the HBCU/MI Mentoring Program, the Intergovernmental Personnel Act Program (IPA) and Technical Assistance Program, provided a blended approach to involving the participation of these institutions. Although the first year was designated for UNCF, in close cooperation with USAMRMC, to develop the program, UNCF was asked to implement the Faculty Fellowship and Student Internship Program one-year earlier. The UNCF staff met the challenge and disseminated the information to HBCU/MI faculty and staff. As stated above, the colleges responded with a total of 26 faculty and 16 student applications forward from UNCF to USAMRMC to consider for their Faculty Fellowship/Student Internship Programs for the summer 1998 program.

It was unfortunate that the USAMRMC decided to terminate the HBCU/MI Faculty/Student Development Program as well as the Mentoring Program, the IPA Program, and technical assistance portions of the cooperative agreement. Many DoD agencies as well as USAMRMC are concerned with the lack of participation of HBCU/MIs yet are not understanding of the uniqueness of these institutions. Reduction in this cooperative agreement towards the end of the initial year sent a negative message (lack of commitment by DoD) to the minority institution community.

The College Fund/UNCF sincerely hopes that the program to involve HBCU/MIs in USAMRMC Programs does not end with the termination of Cooperative Agreement DAMD17-97-2-7010. With continued commitment to HBCU/MI programs, opportunities and involvement of HBCUs/MIs will increase and the benefit will accrue to a grateful nation meeting challenges in a global environment.
LIST OF PERSONNEL:

Mr. Ronald M. Fontenot, Primary Investigator

Ms. Charlene D. Dorn, Program Coordinator
APPENDIX ONE

US ARMY MEDICAL RESEARCH AND MATERIEL COMMAND

FACULTY FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

The College Fund/UNCF
8260 Willow Oaks Corporate Drive
P. O. Box 10444
Fairfax, Virginia 22031-4511
(703) 205-3480

FACULTY/STAFF NAME

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

CHECKLIST:
CURRICULUM VITAE YES____ NO____
RESEARCH PAPER (opt.) YES____ NO____
LABORATORY __________________________

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**Announcement**

**The United States Army Medical Research and Materiel Command (USAMRMC)** is pleased to announce the Faculty Fellowship Program for Summer 1999. The College Fund/UNCF will provide coordination for the program. Information on the major research programs are provided in the USAMRMC brochure or at website:

http://mrmc-www.army.mil

**PROGRAM OVERVIEW**

The **USAMRMC Faculty Fellowship Program** is available to faculty or staff at Historically Black Colleges, Universities and Minority institutions with major fields of instruction in biomedical research, and designed to expose faculty to the wide range of work in the Department of Defense laboratories, and to encourage future collaboration and participation in DoD Research and Development Programs. Faculty may have the opportunity to continue research projects at home institutions throughout the year.

**ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

Candidates must meet the following requirements:

- Faculty or Staff at an HBCU/MI
- U.S. Citizen or permanent resident
- Provide instruction or research in veterinary medicine, pharmacy, biology, chemistry, physics or mathematics
- Hold a Masters or Doctorate in a major field
- Demonstrated ability and interest in biomedical research.
- Live in close proximity to USAMRMC laboratory (see attached laboratory locations) and provide own living expenses.

**APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS**

- Application must be typed and should include Curriculum Vitae and Research experience.
- Publications related to research area (optional)
Completed original application submitted by **February 28, 1999** to:

USAMRMC Faculty Fellowship Program  
Project Coordinator  
Infrastructure Development Assistance Program  
The College Fund/UNCF  
8260 Willow Oaks Corporate Drive  
Fairfax, VA 22031-4511  
Telephone: 703-205-3480

**SELECTION PROCESS**

- Preliminary screening by the College Fund/UNCF
- Final selection and notification by USAMRMC

**FAXED APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED**
U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command
Faculty Fellowship Research Program

CANDIDATE APPLICATION

1. Name (Last) ___________________________(First)____________________________(Initial)_____ 
5. Ethnicity (optional) ___________________________
6. Permanent Address ___________________________ Telephone ( ) ___________________________
7. Current Address ___________________________ Telephone ( ) ___________________________

ACADEMIC PROFILE

8. List in chronological order all Colleges /Universities attended
   Institution __________________ Location __________________ Year(s) Attended __________
   Degree __________________ Major __________________
   __________________ Location __________________ Year(s) Attended __________
   Degree __________________ Major __________________
   __________________ Location __________________ Year(s) Attended __________
   Degree __________________ Major __________________
   __________________ Location __________________ Year(s) Attended __________
   Degree __________________ Major __________________

9. List honors and other distinctions received: ____________________________________________

10. List all research experience or related activities that you have been involved in or attach CV.
    ___________________________________________________________________________
    ___________________________________________________________________________
    ___________________________________________________________________________
    ___________________________________________________________________________

11. Research Objective of Summer Appointment: (optional) ______________________________

DISCLOSURE

I hereby certify that the information provided in this application is to the best of my knowledge, true and correct. I have not knowingly withheld any facts or circumstances that would jeopardize consideration of this application.

Signature: ___________________________________________ Date: __________________________

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USAMRMC LABORATORY LOCATIONS

U. S. Army Aeromedical Research Laboratory (USAARL)
Fort Rucker, Alabama 36362-5292

U. S. Army Institute of Surgical Research (USAISR)
Fort Sam Houston, Texas 78234-5012

U. S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense (USAMRICD)
Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland 21010-5425

U. S. Army Research Institute of Environmental Medicine (USARIEM)
Natick, Massachusetts 01760-5007

Walter Reed Army Institute of Research (WRAIR)
Washington, D. C. 20307-5100

DoD Telemedicine and Advanced Technology Research Center
Fort Detrick, Maryland 21702-5012
APPENDIX TWO

US ARMY MEDICAL RESEARCH
AND MATERIEL COMMAND

STUDENT INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

The College Fund/UNCF
8260 Willow Oaks Corporate Drive
P. O. Box 10444
Fairfax, Virginia 22031-4511
(703) 205-3480

__________________________
STUDENT NAME

__________________________
COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

CHECKLIST:
NUMBER OF REFERENCES
TRANSCRIPT YES ___ NO ___
ESSAY YES ___ NO ___
LABORATORY
Announcement

The United States Army Medical Research and Materiel Command (USAMRMC) is pleased to announce the Student Internship Program for Summer 1999. The College Fund/UNCF will provide coordination for the program. Information on the research programs are provided in the USAMRMC brochure or at website:

http://mrmc-www.army.mil

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The USAMRMC Student Internship Program is designed to provide a summer internship and mentoring to underrepresented minority students who are enrolled in Historically Black Colleges, Universities and Minority Institutions, and to expose students to the wide range of work in the Department of Defense (DoD) laboratories, and to encourage their consideration for future employment within the DoD Research and Development community. Students will be provided an opportunity to work under an assigned laboratory officer who will serve as a mentor and supervisor. Students will be selected for the program on a competitive basis.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Demonstrated interest in research and pursuing degrees in one or more of the following areas:
  
  Mathematics
  Pharmacy
  Pre-Medicine
  Biology
  Physics
  Chemistry

- Enrollment in an HBCU/MI

- Full time enrollment as a second semester sophomore or junior

- A minimum of 3.0 grade point average

- Live in close proximity to USAMRMC laboratory (see attached laboratory locations) and provide own living expenses

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- Application must be typed and should include a one page essay of personal career and academic interests

- At least one nomination letter from faculty advisor

- Complimentary undergraduate transcript (Official transcript will be requested)

- Completed original application submitted by February 28, 1999 to:
Completed original application submitted by February 28, 1999 to:

USAMRMC Student Internship Program
Project Coordinator
Infrastructure Development Assistance Program
The College Fund/UNCF
8260 Willow Oaks Corporate Drive
Fairfax, VA 22031-4511
Telephone: 703-205-3480

SELECTION PROCESS

- Preliminary screening by the College Fund/UNCF
- Final selection and notification by USAMRMC

FAXED APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED
U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command
Student Internship Program Application

STUDENT PROFILE

1. Name: (last) __________________________ (first) __________________________ (Initial) ___________
5. Ethnicity (optional) __________________________
6. Permanent Address __________________________
   __________________________________________ Telephone (   ) __________________
7. Current Address: __________________________
   __________________________________________ Telephone (   ) __________________

ACADEMIC PROFILE

8. College/University __________________________
9. Major __________________________ 10. Classification __________________________
11. Expected Date of Graduation ___/___/____ 12. GPA _________ 13. Overall GPA _________
14. List awards and recognition received __________________________
15. List all extracurricular activities __________________________
   __________________________________________
   __________________________________________

* Include a one page Essay with your application about personal career goals, interests and as much information regarding your interest in the medical field.

DISCLOSURE

I hereby certify that the information provided in this application is to the best of my knowledge, true and correct. I have not knowingly withheld any facts or circumstances that would jeopardize consideration of this application.

Signature: __________________________ Date __________________________

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USAMRMC LABORATORY LOCATIONS

U. S. Army Aeromedical Research Laboratory (USAARL)
Fort Rucker, Alabama 36362-5292

U. S. Army Institute of Surgical Research (USAISR)
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DoD Telemedicine and Advanced Technology Research Center
Fort Detrick, Maryland 21702-5012