

Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation-STEM
University of Arkansas Pulaski Tech Campus: 2023-2024 Annual Summary Report
Coordinator: M. M. Matute

Participants 2023-2024

- a. Romone Gantt, Veronica Rauls, Kristina Poe, Patrick Alcindor, Lydia Bullock, Amir Houston
- b. 3 May 2024 Graduations and 1 transfer to 4-year institution
- c. Lydia Bullock: Transfers to UA Fayetteville as a Junior for a BS program in Aerospace Engineering

Research

1. **Romone Gantt & Veronica Rauls:** Soil Moisture Content and Plant Growth Parameters: Research presented at
 - a. Arkansas Academy of Science 2024 Annual Conference; UA Fort Smith, April 5-6, 2024
 - b. UALR 2024 Research and Creative Works Expo; April 19, 2024
 - c. LSAMP 2024 Annual Research Conference, Little Rock; April 21-22
2. **Kristina Poe:** Bacterial infection burdens of *Branta canadensis* (Canada goose); Study in progress; Co-Advised with Simon Ben Rains

Collaboration with UALR LSAMP

- a. NERD Night: October 18, 2023
- b. Global Game Jam/Crux Lab: January 26, 2024 (Patrick Alcindor and team created a computer game)
- c. 2024 Research and Creative Works Expo: April 19, 2024

Ambassadors of the Sciences

- a. Diamond Dog Day: October 27, 2023-Main Campus, North Little Rock and March 15th, 2024, Little Rock South
- b. Hundreds of High School Students visited the Main/South Campus and were treated to tours of the Science Labs and Demonstrations by faculty assisted by LSAMP/Science Club members. These were potential UAPTC students and the lab activities were meant to be recruiting showcases.

- c. Labs visited: Biological Sciences, Microbiology, Human Anatomy and Physiology, Physics, and Chemistry

First Science Club in the College

- a. LSAMP Members and other students in the Technical/Pure Sciences (with the coordination of Dr. Matute and Dr. Lauster/advisors), formed the first ever Science Club in the College
- b. LSAMP Members (Gantt and Houston) serve as executive leaders of the club
- c. LSAMP/Science Club was instrumental in organizing viewing events in both campuses on April 8, during the solar eclipse.

Invited Speaker on Campus

- a. Mr. Quinn Hurshman: Genetic Counselor with Invitae Labs in Little Rock
- b. Launch of the Science Club: November 14, 2023

WebPage & Flyers

- a. With the assistance of IT and the PR and Marketing department created a webpage and a flyer
- b. Webpage contain information on the program, documenting the activities, and application
- c. Flyers are posted in strategic places around campus advertising the program

Participation in 2024 Annual LSAMP Research Forum

- a. The LSAMP Campus Team was present on both days: April 21-22
- b. Kristina Poe: Was a Discussion Panelist of 2-year Institutions in the Ark-LSAMP Alliance
- c. Romone Gantt and Veronica Rauls: Presented their joint research on Water-Plant Relations
- d. M. M. Matute: Was a Moderator at the Panel Discussion and also presented the UAPTC Annual Report during the Coordinators Meeting



Science Club Launching with guest Speaker: Quinn Hurshman



Team UAPTC LSAMP: NERD Night at UALR



Presenting Research Poster: Veronica Rauls (red/left) and Romone Gantt(blue) at the 2024 LSAMP Annual Conference





Veronica Rauls: Presenting research poster at the 2024 Arkansas Academy of Sciences



Diamond Dog Showcase: Attentive HS Students in the Lab (one group): LSAMP students as co-demonstrators with Associate Professor Jim Porter



Assistant Professor Jeff Shaw: Eclipse Lecture April 8, 2024; a Science Club/LSAMP Event



LSAMP May 2024 Graduates: UAPTC's Rauls (red) and Gantt (blue)



Team UAPTC LSAMP at the 2024 Annual Research Conference in Little Rock



Awards and Certificates: 2024 Annual LSAMP Conference in Little Rock



Kristina Poe (second from the left): Panel Discussion Recognition at the 2024 Annual LSAMP Conference



Team UAPTC LSAMP at the 2024 Annual LSAMP Conference in Little Rock



Romone Gantt

- Member of LSAMP 2023-2024
- May 2024 Graduate
- Heading to UALR for an RN program
- Carried out research in Water-Plant-Relations
- Presented research at the UALR 2024 Research and Creative Works Expo and the LSAMP 2024 Annual Conference
- Awards: Chair Award for Student Research and Research Presentation at the LSAMP Conference
- Founding Member of the UAPTC Science Club and First President of the Club



Veronica Rauls

- Member of LSAMP 2023-2024
- May 2024 Graduate
- Heading to an RN program
- Carried out research in Water-Plant Relations
- Presented research at the 2024 Arkansas Academy of Sciences and the 2024 LSAMP Annual conference
- Awards: Chair Award for Student Research, Presentation at the LSAMP Annual Conference, and Best Student in Nutrition
- Founding Member UAPTC Science Club



Lydia Bullock

- LSAMP Member 2023-2024
- May 2024 Graduate
- Transferring to UA Fayetteville to study Aerospace Engineering



Patrick Alcindor

- LSAMP Member 2023.....
- Major in Mechanical Engineering
- Participated in the UALR Global Game Jam: In collaboration with other team members created a computer game



Kristina Poe

- LSAMP member 2023.....
- Major in Biology
- Panelist at the 2024 Annual LSAMP Conference
- Award: Best Student in Microbiology
- Current Research: Gastrointestinal Bacterial burdens of Canada geese
- Interest: Science of Bats and Indigenous American life



Amir Houston

- LSAMP Member 2023.....
- Major in Computer Engineering
- Founding Member and First Vice President of the UAPTC Science Club