APS Awards $109,200 to Its 2015 STRIDE Undergraduate Research Fellows
21 Fellows in the 2015 Cohort

Bethesda, Md. (May 20, 2015)—The American Physiological Society (APS) is pleased to announce its 2015 Short-Term Research Education Program to Increase Diversity in Health-Related Research (STRIDE) Fellows. Fellowship winners spend the summer in the laboratory of an established scientist and APS member. The STRIDE program recruits undergraduate students nationwide from disadvantaged backgrounds, from underrepresented racial and ethnic groups, and students with disabilities to work with APS member-researchers in the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute (NHLBI) mission areas of cardiovascular, pulmonary, hematologic and sleep disorder research.

2015 STRIDE Fellows:
(APS member-hosts are listed under each Fellow’s name)

Vienna I. Benavides – Cumberland University
Patricia E. Molina, MD, PhD – Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center

Andréa R. Burgess – University of South Florida
Jerome W. Breslin, PhD – University of South Florida

Samantha D. Chavez – University of California, Santa Barbara
Timo M. Rieg, MD, PhD – University of California, San Diego

Debra M. Diepenbrock – Oklahoma Christian University
R. Blair Dodson, PhD – University of Colorado Denver - Anschutz Medical Campus

Emmanuel Garcia – Kansas State University
Bradley J. Behnke, PhD – Kansas State University

Beakal M. Gezahegn – Washington University in St. Louis
Sarah K. England, PhD – Washington University School of Medicine
Fellows are selected based on academic merit, the quality of the proposed experience and the availability of appropriate faculty mentors. Each Fellow receives a $4,000 stipend during the 10-week fellowship and an additional $1,200 in travel funds to present his or her research at the Experimental Biology 2016 meeting in San Diego, which is expected to attract nearly 14,000 attendees. Research hosts receive $500 for student lab supplies.

STRIDE Fellows will participate in hands-on research and learn to develop a hypothesis, design and troubleshoot experiments, collect and analyze data, and write and present results. In addition, Fellows will have the opportunity to:

- network with other APS undergraduate Fellows interested in biomedical research,
- explore the nature of research and the scientific process,
- investigate career options and what it takes to find career success,
- pose their career questions to members of the APS Porter Physiology Development and Minority Affairs Committee and Advisory Board, and
- learn about common ethical issues in figure and text preparation.

The STRIDE program is supported by the APS and a grant from the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute of the National Institutes of Health (NHLBI; 1 R25 HL115473-01).

To set up an interview with one of the Fellows or a research host or to find out more about APS and its educational and award program initiatives, visit the APS website or contact Brooke Bruthers, APS Senior Program Manager, Diversity Programs (301-634-7226), or Melinda Lowy, APS Senior Program Manager, Higher Education Programs (301-634-7787), or visit the APS STRIDE website.

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About the APS Education Department: The APS supports a variety of educational activities, including programs and fellowships to encourage the development of young scientists at the undergraduate and graduate levels, with a particular focus on women and underrepresented minorities. APS also supports refresher courses and teaching awards promoting continued excellence in education at the professional level. In May 2004, APS won the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics and Engineering Mentoring (PAESMEM).

About the APS: Physiology is the study of how molecules, cells, tissues and organs function in health and disease. Established in 1887, the American Physiological Society (APS) was the
first U.S. society in the biomedical sciences field. The Society represents more than 11,000 members and publishes 14 peer-reviewed journals with a worldwide readership.