

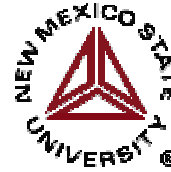
MBRS-RISE PROGRAM

Minority Biomedical Research Support- Research Initiative for Scientific Enhancement
New Mexico State University

MSC 3AF; P.O. Box 3001

Las Cruces, New Mexico 88003-8001

Phone: (505) 646-8040 or 646-3823



MBRS RISE Program for Graduate Students

Minority Biomedical Research Support - Research Initiative for Scientific Enhancement

The MBRS-RISE Program is a research-oriented program sponsored by the National Institutes of Health. **Its primary objective is to increase the number of minorities completing the undergraduate degree and the Ph.D. degree in the biomedical sciences.** Since 1974, nearly 400 minority students from NMSU have participated in the MBRS program and 84% of these students have subsequently gone on to post-baccalaureate schools.

Graduate Assistants accepted into the MBRS-RISE Program receive a monthly salary starting at \$16,135 a year **and** year-round, student-only health insurance coverage **plus** full-time academic-year tuition. Applications are welcome from students who are U. S. citizens or permanent residents and who have applied or who have been accepted to graduate school at New Mexico State University.

The number of minority faculty employed in biomedical research nationally, in universities and in industries, does not proportionally represent the number of minority students currently enrolled in universities. A primary reason for this condition is a scarcity of Hispanic, African-American and American Indian Ph.D.'s involved in research in the biomedical sciences. The MBRS-RISE Program serves as a catalyst to increase the training of people with advanced degrees by promoting minority student involvement in biomedical research and by providing financial support.

Currently, 36 faculty members at NMSU participate as research mentors of students in the MBRS-RISE Program. Students interested in participating in this program are encouraged to contact any of the faculty members to learn more about their research. The accompanying list provides contact information for all participating faculty and describes their areas of research. Also included is an example of a MBRS-RISE graduate agreement for your information.

To apply, please fill out the attached application form and submit a typed statement stating:

- a) How you would benefit by participating in the Minority Biomedical Research Support-Research Initiative for Scientific Enhancement Program.
- b) How your participation would help in fulfilling the Program's objective as stated above.
- c) Your career goals.

Additional information may be obtained by writing to the address listed above or by calling Dr. Marvin Bernstein, Director, at 505-646-3823 or by email, mbernste@nmsu.edu. You may also contact Karen Gomez, Program Coordinator, at 505-646-8040, or by email at kgomez@nmsu.edu.

Please visit our website at:
<http://www.nmsu.edu/mbrs-rise/>

MBRS-RISE Faculty Mentors

FACULTY MENTOR	DEPARTMENT	RESEARCH AREA
Dr. Jeff Arterburn jarterbu@nmsu.edu	Chemistry & Biochemistry Room W294 / 646-2738	Design and Synthesis of Radiopharmaceuticals, Antiviral Drugs, and New Metal Catalysts
Dr. Marvin Bernstein mbernste@nmsu.edu	Biology Foster 333 / 646-3823	Avian Cardiopulmonary and Cerebrovascular Function
Dr. David Cowley dcowley@nmsu.edu	Fishery & Wildlife Sciences Knox Hall 119 / 646-1346	Fisheries, Aquatic Ecology, and Conservation Genetics
Dr. Chris Cramer cscramer@nmsu.edu	Agronomy & Horticulture Skeen Hall N346 / 646-2657	Genetics, Genetic Enhancement, and Production of Onion and Other Horticultural Crops
Dr. Rebecca Creamer creamere@taipan.nmsu.edu	Entomology, Plant Path & Weed Science N248 Skeen Hall / 646-3068	Plant virus biology and ecology and fungal endophyte biology and physiology.
Dr. Aravamudan Gopalan agopalan@nmsu.edu	Chemistry & Biochemistry Room 240 / 646-2589	Synthesis of Biologically Active Molecules Using Microbial Reductions
Dr. John Gustafson jgustafs@nmsu.edu	Biology Foster 306 / 646-5660	Antibiotic resistance mechanisms of the bacterium <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>
Dr. Dean Hawkins dhawkins@nmsu.edu	Animal & Range Science Knox Hall 229 / 646-4135	Mechanisms Governing Ovarian Steroidogenesis
Dr. James W. Herndon jherndon@nmsu.edu	Chemistry & Biochemistry Room 295 / 646-2487	Design of Novel Multiple Ring forming Reactions.
Dr. Daniel Howard dahoward@nmsu.edu	Biology Foster 230A / 646-4324	Evolutionary Biology
Dr. Michael Johnson johnson@nmsu.edu	Chemistry & Biochemistry Room 288A / 646-3627	Mechanisms and modeling of high oxidation state non-heme iron proteins.
Dr. Glenn Kuehn gkuehn@nmsu.edu	Chemistry & Biochemistry Room 373 / 646-1015	Polyamine Oxidase and its Role in Apoptosis Induced by Oxidative Stress
Dr. Peter Lammers plammers@nmsu.edu	Chemistry & Biochemistry Room 371 / 646-3918	DNA Sequencing, Bioinformatics, Genomics, Metabolic Reconstruction
Dr. Antonio Lara alara@nmsu.edu	Chemistry & Biochemistry Room 378 / 646-2918	Direct Optical Resolution of Therapeutic Drugs by Chromatography with Clays
Dr. Clint Löest cloest@nmsu.edu	Animal & Range Science Knox Hall 227 / 646-1714	Ruminant Nutrition
Dr. William Lott wlott@nmsu.edu	Chemistry & Biochemistry Room 379 / 646-3218	RNA structure/function relationship in the hepatitis C virus (HCV) genome. Targeting regulation of gene expression (gene silencing) via inhibition of translation initiation as a strategy for HCV-specific drug design.
Dr. Michele K. Nishiguchi nish@nmsu.edu	Biology Room 236 / 646-3721	Evolutionary Biology-Marine Symbiosis
Dr. Wendel Oderkirk woderkir@nmsu.edu	Nursing Breland 254 / 646-8168	Colorectal Cancer Screening in minority populations.
Dr. Mary O'Connell moconnel@nmsu.edu	Agronomy & Horticulture Gerald Thomas 179 / 646-5172	Plant molecular genetics (metabolism, biotic and abiotic stress responses), medicinal plants, and bioinformatics.
Dr. Kevin Oshima koshima@nmsu.edu	Biology/Molecular Biology Foster Hall 203 / 646-2092	Evolution of RNA Viruses; Risk Assessment of Waterborne Pathogens to Humans
Dr. Ian Ray iaray@nmsu.edu	Agronomy & Horticulture Skeen Hall 342 / 646-3819	Improving Osmotic Stress Tolerance in Alfalfa Through Molecular Techniques and Conventional Breeding.
Dr. Gary Rayson gdrayson@nmsu.edu	Chemistry & Biochemistry Room 289 / 646-5839	Investigation of metal atoms and ions in complex chemical environments
Dr. Tim Ross tross@nmsu.edu	Animal & Range Science Knox Hall 333 / 646-3402	Improving range sheep productivity

Dr. Rolston St. Hilaire rsthilai@nmsu.edu	Agronomy & Horticulture Gerald Thomas 295B/ 646-3638	Environmental Stress Physiology of Plants and the Use of Chloroplast DNA in Phylogeography
Dr. Champa Sengupta-Gopalan csgopala@nmsu.edu	Agronomy & Horticulture Skeen Hall N326 / 646-5784	Regulation & Modulation of Plant Genes Involved in Nitrogen Assimilation
Dr. Elba Serrano eserrano@nmsu.edu	Biology Foster 337D / 646-5217	Neuroscience / Molecular Genetics / Biophysics
Dr. Brad Shuster cshuster@nmsu.edu	Biology Foster 407 / 646-1325	Regulation of the cytoskeleton and cell cycle in the early embryo.
Dr. Geoffrey Smith gsmith@nmsu.edu	Biology Foster 232 / 646-6080	Microbial Biodegradation of Environmental Pollutants and the Use of Molecular Probes
Dr. Steven Starnes sstarnes@nmsu.edu	Chemistry & Biochemistry Room 216 / 646-1423	Design and synthesis of receptors for anions and molecules of biomedical and environmental significance.
Dr. Tracy Sterling tsterlin@nmsu.edu	Ento, Plant Path & Weed Science N240 Skeen Hall / 646-6177	Oxidative stress tolerance, Plant/Insect interactions, Chemical ecology, Herbicide mode of action.
Dr. Milton G. Thomas milthoma@nmsu.edu	Animal & Range Science Knox Hall 328 / 646-3427	Physiological Genetics: Evaluating Markers Within Genes that Regulate Metabolic Hormones
Dr. Laura A. Thompson Thompson@crl.nmsu.edu	Psychology Science Hall 330 / 646-4024	Maternal/Infant Synchrony in Cortisol and Behavior: Relations with Cognitive Development
Dr. Wenda R. Trevathan wtrevath@nmsu.edu	Sociology & Anthropology Breland 302 / 646-3720	Maternal/Infant Synchrony in Cortisol and Behavior: Relations with Cognitive Development
Dr. Claudia Trevino ctrevino@nmsu.edu	Chemistry & Biochemistry Room 372 / 646-6702	Participation of ion channels in sperm physiology
Dr. Graciela A. Unguez gunguez@nmsu.edu	Biology Foster 408 / 646-7963	Developmental Neurobiology and Muscle Physiology

OFFER OF GRADUATE POSITION WITH MBRS-RISE

Your appointment in the MBRS-RISE Program will become active when you have signed and returned this form. Please read everything carefully. If you would like to discuss any aspect of this offer please see Karen Gomez, Program Coordinator, or Dr. Marvin Bernstein, Program Director.

YOUR FINANCIAL BENEFITS FROM MBRS-RISE FOR JANUARY 01, 2003 THROUGH AUGUST 31, 2003:

1. I will receive a graduate appointment in the MBRS-RISE Program with financial support from the MBRS-RISE Program separately or in combination with other nonfederal sources.
2. The MBRS-RISE Program will pay my full-time tuition of nine graduate credit hours only for Fall and Spring semesters. No student fees will be paid by MBRS-RISE during Fall and Spring semesters.
3. The MBRS-RISE Program will pay for year-round student-only major medical insurance coverage. I understand that this benefit is reported to the Financial Aid office by the RISE office. If I apply for financial aid and qualify to receive aid, the dollar amount of this benefit will be assessed in my needs analysis.

CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT:

1. By accepting this position, you agree to enroll for and maintain enrollment in a **minimum of 9 graded hours** of graduate course work per semester. Audited classes cannot be used for the minimum course load.
2. The MBRS-RISE Program may terminate this appointment if you do not maintain full-time graduate status in good standing, as defined by Graduate School policy, or if you do not perform satisfactory work in your assigned duties as a Graduate Assistant.
3. You may accept a Teaching Assistantship and the payment it provides in lieu of your MBRS-RISE salary for a maximum of two semesters.
4. If your duties as a Graduate Assistant are voluntarily terminated, or terminated by the MBRS-RISE Program prior to the end of the semester, you will be liable for payment of tuition at the non-supported student rate.
5. It is understood that you will abide by the resolution stated below:

Acceptance of an offer of a graduate position for the next academic year by an actual or prospective graduate student completes an agreement that the student, the MBRS-RISE Program, and the Graduate School expect to honor. If the student accepts the offer before July 1 and subsequently desires to withdraw, the student may submit in writing a resignation of the appointment through July 1. However, an acceptance given or left in force after July 1 commits the student not to accept another offer without first obtaining a written release from New Mexico State University. Similarly, an offer by New Mexico State University after July 1 is conditional on presentation by the student of the written release from any previously accepted offer.

GRADUATE SCHOOL TIME LIMITS:

Graduate Students Initially Enrolled at NMSU

1. Support for doctoral students should ordinarily not exceed five years. The fifth year of support will be contingent upon successful completion of the doctoral comprehensive examination.
2. Support for students working on a Masters degree should ordinarily not exceed two years.
3. Students working toward a PhD should have the qualifying examination at the end of the first year of studies. You and your advisor should jointly agree on the members of the graduate committee who will give the examination. When you have successfully completed the qualifying/core exam, you will become a Level II Graduate Assistant and may receive a pay increase.
4. After a PhD candidate completes the comprehensive examination, he/she will become a Level III Graduate Assistant and may receive a pay increase.

ACCEPTANCE OF THIS APPOINTMENT

I accept this position and agree to the terms of this offer. I accept that employment is contingent upon availability of grant funding.

_____ **Do Not Sign** _____
Print Name Signature Date