

CSW-SEED Program Still Going Strong!



Ajay Mallia presenting description of SEED program history, organization, and guidelines

The SEED program is alive and well despite the departure of long-time SEED chairman, Dr. Ajay Mallia, in July. Our three events this summer – an orientation session, a career panel, and a presentation on technical presentations and writing – have been well attended and the evaluations of the program by this year's students have been overwhelmingly positive. Our twenty participants this year hail from six different high schools, and a total of sixteen mentors at six different institutions have welcomed students into their laboratories.

The SEED Orientation event was held on July 9th. After CSW President Dennis Chamot welcomed this year's participants, their families, and a number of mentors to the 2016 SEED Orientation, the floor was turned over to Ajay Mallia for a summary of the history of SEED and the CSW SEED program, in particular. We then heard from Ms. Marta Walker about the potential impact on her high school students that the SEED program can bring each year. We also heard from one of the 2016 SEED II students, Ms. Renard Petiangamba, about her experience last summer. Dr. Travis Holman, a mentor in the program and his current appreciation of the opportunity to mentor the next generation of young scientists. The program then concluded with the introductions of this year's SEED fellows.

Deiadrh Campbell
Zane Haug
Nicholas Mbenga
Absatau Njie
Blessing Ekpo
Meron Legesse
Steven Hu

Tenneh Dukuly
Jahmally Willie
Lea Karan
Florence Kyremanteng
Johanness Osorio
Priscilla Hounkpouno
Laura Lopez

Anulichi Okorie
Tes Osei
Jenny Chen
Andrew Almeida
Tojo Rabemananjara
Renard Petiangamba



Louis Poon introduces the speakers for the Career Panel (L-R: Safia Jilani, Kaveh Jorabchi, Wesley Farrell, Svetla Baykoucheva, Melissa Hernandez)

On July 30th, our Fellows returned to hear about a number of different types of careers from a panel of our local members – Dr. Svetla Baykoucheva (UMD), Dr. Wesley Farrell (NIST), Dr. Melissa Fernandez (NIH), Ms. Safia Jilani (Georgetown), and Dr. Kaveh Jorabchi (Georgetown). The students were particularly struck by the paths that the speakers had followed on the way to their current positions (which had included several twists and turns).

Most recently, Dr. Richard Goodman and Dr. Steven Metallo provided information on technical writing and presentations in anticipation of the final event of the SEED.

Program event, the SEED Symposium. The symposium will be held this year on September 10th at ACS Headquarters, 9:30 AM – noon.



SEED students at Technical Presentation and Writing Workshop as guidelines and suggestions were provided by Drs. Richard Goodman and Steven Metallo



SEED Fellows from University of Maryland Eastern Shore also attended the Career Panel hosted by the C:SW SEED program

One new element of the program this year has been our cooperation with SEED program participants at University of Maryland – Eastern Shore. The program there is being organized by Dr. Victoria Volkis. Her four students (Montajha Bowen, Cierra Jennestreet, Ashley Rochford, and Alaya Lewis) have been able to join us for the career panel and technical presentation programs, and we look forward to seeing them again at the Symposium