

The NSF-REU Site in Chemistry & Biochemistry at CSULA

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The Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry at California State University, Los Angeles has hosted an REU site since 1989. From its inception, the CSULA REU Program has focused almost exclusively on recruiting students from the many community colleges located within the Los Angeles Basin. In particular, we strongly encourage participation by students from groups traditionally underrepresented in the chemical sciences. We receive funding from the NSF Division of Chemistry to support ten students each summer. Since 1989, a total of 172 community college students have participated in the CSULA REU Program.

The primary goal of the CSULA REU Program is to give participants the opportunity to perform meaningful research in the chemical sciences alongside our faculty and undergraduate students with the aim of influencing these students early in their academic programs to pursue research careers in chemistry.



2001 CSULA REU participants: front row (l. to r.) Carole Baca, Karla Koti, Deborah Jones, and Maricela Castaneda. Middle row: Wazir Ezedine, Kristen Wardlaw, Noelle Jensen, Shawna Hagger, and Hugo Nunez. Back row: Tosa Ogboghodo, Eric Frommer, Lester Baron, and Dr. Scott Nickolaisen.

Since 1990, REU participants have co-authored more than 30 articles in scientific journals describing their research results. Additionally, many more research presentations have been given by CSULA REU students at regional and national meetings. Most participants continued to pursue research opportunities as undergraduate students upon matriculation at their chosen four-year universities. And as indicated in the summary table, the majority of REU participants enter graduate programs in the chemical sciences upon completion of their bachelor degrees. This is evidence of the power and effectiveness of an early research experience in a student's academic and career development.

CSULA REU Participants: Summary of Student Diversity and Outcomes

Hispanic participants	49.5 %
African-American participants	35.2 %
Native American participants	1.9 %
Pacific Islander participants	1.9 %
Female participants	62.9 %
Participants completing B.S. degrees	98.1 %
Participants entering graduate programs in chemistry	53.3 %



Some of the 2004 CSULA REU participants : (l. to r.) Jorge Martinez, April White, Marisol Fernandez, Stephanie Osonkie, Gezman Adullahi, and Liza Sargsyan