

SOUTHWESTERN NEWS

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SUMMER PROGRAM OFFERS MINORITY STUDENTS A CHANCE TO WORK IN RESEARCH LABS

DALLAS — August 5, 1993 — Sixteen high-school students participated in the 1993 Summer Research Program for Minority High School Students at The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas.

The students were interns learning scientific methods by working in laboratories at UT Southwestern in a program sponsored by the National Institutes of Health.

"Most students accepted into this program have no realistic concept of the process of scientific discovery," said Dr. Joel Goodman, program sponsor and associate professor of pharmacology at UT Southwestern.

While at UT Southwestern the visiting interns are exposed to "real people doing real science," Goodman said. They return to their schools with positive experiences to share with their classmates. "This accounts for the large number of applicants that we have been seeing recently — 130 this year," he said.

Some of the students who have participated in the program pursue college careers in science and math as a result of their experiences at UT Southwestern.

"We have begun to see a few of these students from past years entering medical school at UT Southwestern, and a few more have entered graduate schools in science or engineering," Goodman said. "We do know that the program is working, and we expect many more students to enter scientific careers in the near future."

The majority of students who participated in the summer program were from Dallas-area high schools. The students and their schools included Stewart Chang and Adrian Thomas, Newman Smith; Alma Escamilla, Sunset; Antonii Henderson, Grand Prairie; James Houston Jr. and Shalini Rajasekaran, Health Professions High School; and Adrian Leday, Garland.

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Other high school students who participated are Jeffrey Lin, Berkner; Sharlotte Moore, Business and Management Center High School; Duc Pham, Nimitz; Rhonda Raven, Carter; Cristina Salazar, North Dallas; Wei Song, Highland Park; Keith Williamson, Lincoln; and Sara Yok, Skyline. Charlene Ahn from the North Carolina School of Science and Math in Durham is also participating.

Goodman is assisted in the summer research program by Dr. Meg Phillips, assistant professor of pharmacology, and Cherlyn Lacy, administrative coordinator of pharmacology.

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