TSU gets grant to assist minority biomedic students

A $314,075 three-year grant to assist in the education of minority students in biomedical sciences has been awarded Tennessee State University by the National Institutes of Health - Division of Research Resources.

"This program is designed primarily to train and orient minority students to biomedical research with the long range goal being to increase minority representation in the field," said Dr. Richard A. Hogg, director of the grant project.

Both undergraduate and graduate students participate in the program, which involves 18 students each year. Students are selected for the program to engage in research projects with faculty members. They receive tuition, a stipend and a grant to cover costs of research.

University faculty members receive released time from other duties to work with student researchers in the program.

"This program also provides an opportunity for expanded research to our faculty," Hogg, who is also associate dean for sciences of TSU's School of Arts and Sciences, said. "And it provides an excellent introduction to biomedical research problems for our students."

Another goal of the program, Hogg said, is to introduce students to biomedical research instruments and to encourage both students and faculty to publish the results of their research and - or make presentations at scholarly meetings.

The current grant is a continuation of a previous five - year grant. Areas of study which students and faculty have explored under the program include the ultrastructure of immune responses in leukemic mice, biofeed - back mechanisms, the effect of environmental pollutants on cellular structure physiology and the effect of clerical agents on the immune response.

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Scientists from universities throughout the Southeastern United States met recently in Nashville and proposed a regional study of soybean germplasm to help breeders develop more hardy varieties.

The proposed four - year study, to be titled "Evaluation of Soybean Germplasm for Biological Efficiency and Stress Tolerance," would involve the coordination of research at Tennessee State Univ., Alabama A and M Univ., Alcorn State Univ., (Miss.), Fort Valley State College (Ga.), Tuskegee Inst., (Ala.) and the University of Md., Eastern Shore.

Additional universities may become involved in the study as it progresses.

These historically black land - grant institutions conduct agricultural research with funding from the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

The funds are administered by research directors at each of the institutions. Institutional research directors will be asked to approve the regional proposal at a November meeting of their association.

Dr. Hazel Williamson Jr., an agricultural economist, is director of Tennessee State's Cooperative Agricultural Research Program (CARP). Current CARP research under his overall direction includes three soybean projects.

Dr. Hazo W. Carter is evaluating hybrid soybeans using replicated row trials; Dr. Prem S. Kahlon is studying the factors influencing mutation induction in soybeans; and Dr. Desa Duseja is studying the effects of herbicides on soybean performance.

Duseja was elected to a committee that will prepare the regional study project proposal.

Minority students in medical schools

While enrollment in the United States' 124 medical schools has reached a record high — 62,242, according to the Association of American Medical Colleges — the number of blacks, American Indians, Mexican Americans and Puerto Ricans (U.S. mainland) attending them has declined.

From 1977 - 78 to the current academic year, minority enrollment in the total U.S. medical school student body has dropped from 8.1 percent to 7.9 percent, and in the first - year class from 9 percent to 8.7 percent.

Women medical students have grown in number from 14,218 in 1977 - 78 to 15,113 this year.

The number of blacks in the nation's medical schools is down from last year's total of 3,587 to this year's enrollment of 3,540.

First - year classes have experienced a similar drop — from 1,085 to 1,064.

Various explanations have been offered for this decrease in black enrollment: the increased cost - for medical education, inadequate financial aid, expanded opportunities in other professions, etc.

"But the greater likelihood," according to Dr. Marion Mann, dean of HUCM, "is that there are not enough qualified black applicants."

Dr. Mann defines "qualified" as "a combination of academic and - or cognitive development and personal traits which will augur success" in the medical school curriculum and subsequent practice (Journal of the National Medical Association, March 1978).

Classroom training proves effective

WASHINGTON — Classroom job training programs, when successfully completed, tend to produce more permanently trained individuals than do other kinds of training, according to a study released by the U.S. Department of Labor.

The handbook "Classroom Training — The OIC Approach: CETA Programs Models," explores the question as to whether employability skills are best developed on the job or in training institutions.

A handbook on the subject states that studies of after-training wages and job retention support the finding.

Classroom training tends to produce individuals who are more likely to stay on a job after they have been placed, less likely to need retaining six months or a year after placement, and more likely to be promoted, according to the study.

Intended to assist state and local governments operating programs under the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA), the handbook was prepared for the Labor Department's Employment and Training Administration by Calvin Pressley, executive director of the Opportunities Industrialization Center (OIC) of Greater New York, Inc. and James McGraw, of the OIC Executive Directors Association.

—Careers in fashion

(Continued from Page 19).

town areas being revitalized.

Some grads will be employed by manufacturing companies, as Baltimore still has a number of men's and women's clothing factories and is the rainweather center of the United States.

Some graduates, bent on becoming designers, move on to New York and other cities with extensive clothing manufacturing.

"Graduates of CCB will start off as fashion assistants, fashion coordinators or fashion merchandisers or assistant designers," said Dr. James M. Brazil, assistant dean, Division of Social and Behavioral Sciences, in an interview for the AFRO-AMERICAN.

"As the grads gain experience in the problems of a particular store or company, officials will move these employes up to department managers, store buyers or store managers."

Some of the graduates are looking forward to opening their own stores in neighborhoods or in the downtown area, now being boomed. Other students, after receiving their associate in arts degrees at CCB, desire to continue their education, transferring their credits to the third year of other colleges and universities.

Companies can absorb these trained in fashion work — recent high school graduates, men and women employed in other occupations. Housewives, mothers, and yes, even grandmothers, who desire opportunities outside their homes to express themselves and earn money in a time of inflation, will discover many opportunities in fashion merchandising.

"The students get a thorough grounding in the basics of clothing materials and of art, while they study merchandising in another group of courses," Dr. Brazil explained.

In the first semester, students learn about clothing construction and the fundamentals of art and drawing, while they study art history for perspective.

They improve also their writing abilities, which will come in handy during their future careers. In the second semester, students study the history of costume-design and learn about textiles, but they also begin their study of up-to-date business methods.

During the second year of the two-year course, students advance to a study of marketing and selling and retail methods as well as advertising, essential for successful merchandising. They enroll also for additional background the courses in American, world and Afro-American literature.

The Community College of Baltimore has developed a cooperative educational-work study program by which students get practical experience in a store or manufacturing company while attending college classes.

In the second year, students may get three credits for their work in retail establishments or manufacturing companies. Financial assistance is available, but it is necessary to apply now.

For more information about the opportunities in fashion merchandising, call Dr. Brazill, at (301) 396-0203, or 396-1820, or drop in to see him in the Bard Building on the Harbor Campus, Lombard Street at Market Place.

—Alumni

(Continued from Page 8)

approved plan and how to implement.

Alumni members identify potential students and notify recruitment office.

The recruitment office arranges a time and date for the presentation that is mutually convenient for all parties involved, namely, students, parents, alumni, faculty or staff members.

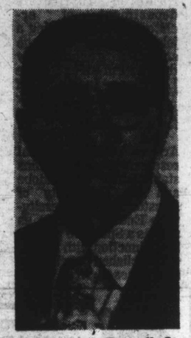
Personal letters are sent to students from the Admissions Office letting them know that they are looking forward to seeing them. Enclose a college brochure, bookmark or button.

The presentation is made.

Follow up letters to students and alumni.

St. Paul's College among three getting continued support

At the Open Hearing of the Episcopal General Convention's Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget and Finance in Denver, Colorado, recently Dr. James A. Russell Jr., president of one of the three remaining Episcopal Church - related black colleges in the United States, stressed the need for continued financial support from the church.



Dr. James A. Russell, Jr.

With reference to the committee's proposal of funding in the amount of $800,000 for the coming year to be devolved by $100,000 decreased each year for the following two years, Dr. Russell, in speaking for the three black colleges (Voorhees, St. Augustine's, and Saint Paul's, located in South Carolina, North Carolina, and Virginia, respectively), informed the committee that such a program of declining support would work extreme financial hardships on the institutions.

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Dr. Russell mentioned the impracticality of increasing student fees as a means of counterbalancing any such probable financial losses, since the majority of the students attending these colleges come from low-income families; that the alumni of the three colleges, while most were continuously increasing the amount of their personal contributions, many were not in a position to do so.

With supportive speeches by Bishop H. Irving Mayson of Michigan and the Rev. Edward Geyer of Conn., a final vote by the House of Deputies and The House of Bishops resulted in restoral of the $800,000 annual appropriation to the colleges for each of the next three years.

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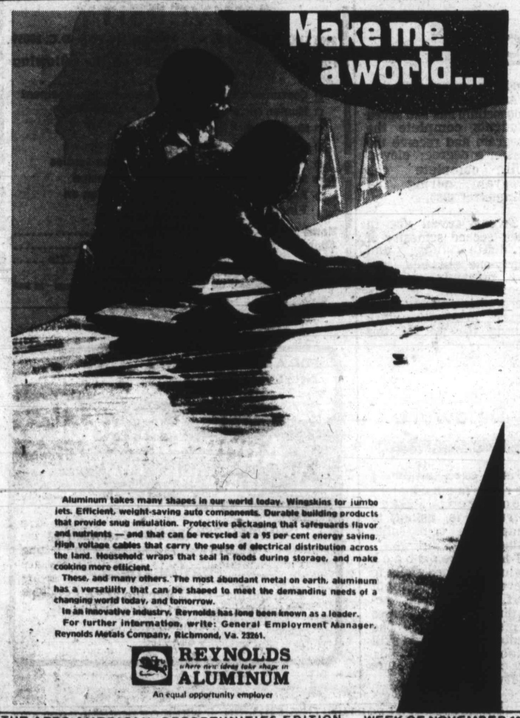

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