

# Postbaccalaureate Research Education Program in Biomedical Sciences PREP

Term: 2022-2023 | Issue 5 | Date: May 2023

## EXCITING NEWS!!

The LSUHSC-NO PREP has been approved for funding for 2023-2028. NIG NIGMS 1R25GM148309

## Welcome 2023/2024 PREP Scholars

### **Dwayne Crenshaw**

University of New Orleans  
BS Biological Sciences  
Mentor: Jennifer Lentz, PhD  
Department of Otorhinolaryngology

### **Caitlynn Diggs**

Southern University at New Orleans  
BS Biology  
Mentor: Alison Quale, PhD/Li Shen, PhD  
Department of Microbiology, Immunology and  
Parasitology

### **Nicholas Horne**

University of Louisiana at Monroe  
BS Biology  
Mentor: Jason Gardner, PhD  
Department of Physiology

### **Victoria Rodriguez**

Southeastern Louisiana University  
BS Biological Science  
Mentor: Jovanny Zabaleta, PhD  
Department of Oncology

### **Katelyn White**

Xavier University of Louisiana  
BS Chemistry Pre-Med  
Mentor: Sunyoung Kim, PhD/Edward Wojcik, PhD  
Department of Biochemistry

## Past Scholar Highlight: Chelsea Callicoatte



Chelsea was a PREP scholar in 2019/2020. She is currently at UC Irvine in her 2nd year of the Neuroscience PhD program. Her thesis project is not completely decided yet, but she is in Dr. Steward's spinal cord injury/regeneration lab.

She is currently creating a model to examine dendrite regeneration after injury, as well as working on a bioluminescence collaboration. She recently gave an oral presentation for the Interdepartmental Neuroscience program Annual Symposium. It was titled, "A Vertebrate Model for Testing AAV-Based Gene Cargos to Minimize Atrophy and/or Promote Regrowth of Motoneuron Dendrites After Spinal Cord Injury."

## Past Scholar Highlight: Shana Littleton

Shana was an outstanding PREP scholar in 2019/2020. She was offered a position in the University of Michigan T32 program and was awarded funding by an NIH F31 grant. She will accept the F31 grant for her research project.

# CURRENT & PAST SCHOLARS ATTENDED CONFERENCES



2022/2023 PREP Scholar, Isabella Liano, presented a poster at the National Hispanic Science Network in September 2022.



2019/2020 PREP Scholars, Diego Vargas, Anita Waye & Shana Littleton attended the ABRCMS in November 2022. Photo with Dr. Harrison-Bernard.

## PREP APPLICATION DATES

Open: December 1<sup>st</sup>  
Deadline: March 1<sup>st</sup>  
Notice: April 30<sup>th</sup>  
Start Date: June 1<sup>st</sup>

## PREP CONTACTS

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<http://PREP.lsuhscc.edu>