Career Development Presentations 2010-2011

The HSPP includes funding for career panels and presentations at which guest speakers provide information about science and science-related careers to our students. Robert Earl, the Director of Barnard’s Office of Career Development (OCD), coordinates this aspect of our program. The OCD organized four events during the current reporting period. A member of the Career Development Office attended each event.

(a) Careers in Psychology. November 8, 2010 – Alexandra Berk, BC’02

A Barnard Psychology major, Alexandra Berk joined a group of seventeen Barnard students for dinner and discussion about her career as a Clinical Research Manager at the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, New York. She brings a breadth of research work and publications in stereotyping and prejudice, medical and mental health care disparities, ethnic minority mental health, cultural concerns in assessment and research design. Currently, she is pursuing her PhD in Cognitive, Social, and Developmental Psychology from the New School for Social Research, New York. She received her MA in Psychology at the New School University, New York in 2005. The event had an overwhelming positive student response.

(b) Summer Science Internship Panel. November 16, 2010 – A panel of students

Three Barnard students who had the opportunity to intern during the summer of 2010 were joined by an audience of thirty students for a panel discussion to share their science internship experiences. The panel included two seniors and a junior. Nashid Chaurdhary, BC’11, worked as an Amgen Scholar at the Laboratory of Holly Moore at the New York State Psychiatric Institute. She investigated the changes in extracellular neurochemical levels following drug pretreatment in an acute pharmacological model of psychosis using an in-vivo electrochemical biosensor. Aanam Aslam, BC’11, was a research assistant for multiple projects in a biogeochemistry lab at Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory. During her internship, she collaborated with the Surfer's Environmental Alliance to identify and quantify bacterial species in sewage-contaminated recreational ocean waters, and then isolated bacterial enzyme from Bering Sea mud sediment samples as part of her independent project. As a Merck Fellowship intern, Daly Franco, BC’12, has been exploring the behavioral effects of stress on pre-pubertal and adult male rats at the Barnard Psychology Department. The students found the discussion highly informative with some of them even engaging in a one-on-one interaction with the panelists after the event. Students were also provided with a brief document containing resources for finding internships. A light dinner was provided to the attendees.
(c) Careers in Psychiatry and Psychoanalysis. April 7, 2011 – Maureen Turey, MD, BC’76

Dr. Maureen Turey joined a small group of Barnard students for a light dinner to share her experiences at Barnard, and in psychiatry and psychoanalysis. Apart from her private practice, she holds a faculty position at the Columbia University Center for Psychoanalytic Training and Research, and is an Assistant Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at Columbia. Dr. Turey completed her Bachelors in English Literature, and pursued her M.D. at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University.

(d) Careers in Research. April 28, 2011 – Dr. Marian Meyers, BC’59

A group of students joined Dr. Marian Meyers for a luncheon to discuss her career and college experiences. She was a Research Scientist at Merck & Co. in Rahway, NJ, and a Research Associate at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, where she did multidrug-resistance studies and discovered the calcium-binding protein she named sorcin. She was also an Associate Research Professor at Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Department of Cardiology, where she found that sorcin played a role in calcium transport in the heart. Following this research, she continued her pioneering work in sorcin studies in cardiology departments at Mount Sinai and NYU Medical School. She completed her M.S. in Organic Chemistry from the University of Maryland, and her PhD in Biochemistry from the Graduate Division of Cornell Medical School. The students thoroughly enjoyed having an informal discussion with her.