Building Capacity to Increase Cultural Diversity in Autism Research: Insights from the INSAR Summer Research Internship in Autism and Cultural Diversity

INSAR Cultural Diversity Committee
August 12, 2020

www.autism-insar.org
Cultural Diversity Committee

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National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences
Cultural Diversity Committee Mission

1. Increase INSAR membership diversity
2. Foster scientific career development from individuals historically under-represented
3. Promote cultural diversity issues within the annual scientific program at INSAR annual meeting
4. Promote inclusion and consideration of issues of diversity in scientific autism research
5. Increase comfort and belonging of individuals from less-represented countries
Overview of Activities

Year-long Activities

• Cultural Diversity Research Award
• Cultural Diversity Summer Internship
• Quarterly Newsletter
• Social Media Presence (Twitter, Facebook)

INSAR Annual Meeting Activities

• INSAR Presentations with Cultural Diversity focus
• Cultural Diversity Pre-conference Workshops
• Meet and Greet Reception
• Cultural Diversity Poster Award
• Cultural Diversity Ambassadors
• Networking Luncheon
Cultural Diversity Research Award

2018 • Centre for Autism Research in Africa (CARA)

2019 • Cecilia Montiel-Nava, University of Texas at Rio Grande Valley

2020 • Waganesh Zeleke, Duquesne University
Summer Research Internship in Autism Spectrum Disorder and Cultural Diversity

2018
- Mariana Garcia, University of Illinois at Chicago
- Sandy Magaña, University of Texas at Austin

2019
- Maria Elizabeth Jaramillo, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- Sandy Magaña, University of Texas at Austin

2019
- Jonathan Safer-Lichtenstein, University of Oregon
- Cameron Neece, Loma Linda University
Internship Presentations
Summer Research Internship in Autism Spectrum Disorder and Cultural Diversity

2020
- Elizabeth Holliday Morgan, University of California, Davis
- Elizabeth McGhee Hassrick, Drexel University

2020
- Monica Maria Abdul-Chani, University of Alabama at Birmingham
- Katherine Zuckerman, Oregon Health & Science University
## Eligibility Criteria

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<th>Student</th>
<th>Mentor</th>
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<td>Currently enrolled undergraduate/graduate students in good standing with an accredited institution</td>
<td>Employed in a full-time faculty position at an academic or research institution.</td>
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<td>Located within the same country as their mentor</td>
<td>Documented cultural diversity and autism research experience</td>
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<td>Current INSAR Student member</td>
<td>Prior experience mentoring graduate-level trainees/students</td>
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<td>Current INSAR Full member</td>
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# Application Materials

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<th>Student</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cover Page</td>
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<tr>
<td>Statement of Proposed Research</td>
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<tr>
<td>Applicant’s Biosketch</td>
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<td>Applicant’s graduate transcripts</td>
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<td>Letter of Recommendation</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<td>Mentor’s Biosketch</td>
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<td>One representative publication on mentor’s research focusing on cultural diversity</td>
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<td>Letter of Support</td>
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<td>Proposed Budget and Justification</td>
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Review Criteria

- Relevance of the proposed project to cultural diversity in autism research
- The student’s interest in autism research and academic achievement
- The mentor’s research qualifications and capacity to mentor
- Potential for long-term impact of mentoring