**Pre-LIMS Makes its Case**

Faculty members from the Division of Social Work, Behavioral and Political Science have begun to address the persistent under-representation of ethnic and socio-economic minorities in the legal profession with the support of the Law Investment in Mentoring Students (Pre-LIMS). Currently, the first class, composed of 28 students, is 90% white, and enrollment in law school is 80% white, a disparity that supports the collaborative effort by PVAMU and the Law School of The University of Texas at Austin. The long-term objective of Pre-LIMS is to increase the number of students in the law school pipeline, diversify the legal profession, and enhance future success of PV alumni in law school. The first effort toward this goal was the successful execution of the 2004 Summer Program.

On-campus activities ranged from daily classes and workshops in legal history and constitutional law, led by Dr. Steven Wornovitz, Distinguished Professor of History and Dr. Anthony Covington (Assistant Professor of Political Science). Students completed a series of homework assignments, including the writing of a 10-page paper on constitutional and briefing cases. The program also featured LSAT Preparation and Practice, taught by the Princeton Review.

The program also featured LSAT Preparation and Practice, taught by the Princeton Review. Pre-LIMS students came from the University of Houston Law Center and Dean William C. Powers, Jr. the University of Texas School of Law.

The eight student participants visited a class at the University of Houston Law Center and attended a tour and lunch provided by the law school firm Baker, Botts. A highlight of the program was the “GET NEXT GENERATION” program, a collaborative effort by PVAMU and the University of Houston College of Engineering. The capstone of the summer program was a trial held at the Hilliard Community Court in Southern District Court, Southern District of Texas, where students competed in mock trial competition, with Hon. Vanessa D. Gilmore, United States District Judge, presiding.

**Bridging the Gap Biology**

The Summer Scientific Research programs, co-directed by Dr. Gloria Regisford and Dr. Lawrence Rivers, successfully worked towards “bridging the gap” in science education and health disparities. Students from the University of Houston College of Medicine and seven PV students participated in one of three summer programs: the Bridging the Gap to the Biomedical Degrees (BG2D); Project EXPORT (Bridging the Gap: Addressing Environmental Justice through Science); and Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU). Students participated in laboratory research, attended leadership and GRE workshops, and visited Baylor’s Genome Sequencing Center and NASA.

The summer programs culminated in a Research Symposium held at the MSC on August 5, 2004, where the students presented posters of their research findings. Opening remarks were given by Dr. Joanne Thomas-Smith and Dr. Albert Thompson, Professor of Chemistry and Mathematics, respectively. Students presented their research in the areas of 3-D protein modeling, studying the role of proteins in adding a biochemical synthesis, and assessing the effect of charge on the local environment of a white-light emitting molecule. The students presented their research findings, answered questions from the audience, and contributed to the team effort. One student stressed the Navy’s emphasis on diversity, noting that, with the great demand for engineers, mathematicians, and other technical experts, the U.S. Navy has to compete with the industry offering attractive financial rewards. Cmdr. Rondoue suggested that HBCU’s are a significant resource for changing things.

**Praise for NROT**

Military Science

Commander Anne Rondoue, a rear admiral in charge of training in the U.S. Navy, recently met with approximately 30 of PVAMU’s NROTC officers and students, in an effort to strengthen University-Navy ties, motivate the students, and publicize scholarship opportunities. Cmdr. Rondoue praised the students’ commitment to service and advised them to take advantage of the opportunities, and contribute to the team effort. Rondoue stressed the Navy’s emphasis on diversity, noting that, with the great demand for engineers, mathematicians, and other technical experts, the U.S. Navy has to compete with the industry offering attractive financial rewards. Cmdr. Rondoue suggested that HBCUs are a significant resource for changing things.