21 UB undergraduate students from the STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) and pre-health disciplines spent their summer conducting research with faculty members in their respective departments gaining an invaluable learning experience through the CSTEP Summer Research Program. The 8-week program concluded on July 28th with the 9th Annual Summer Research Symposium and Luncheon. The capstone event included poster presentations from each student on their faculty-mentored research projects judged by UB faculty. Students had attended a research methods seminar, workshops, and fieldtrips exposing them to cultural events around Buffalo, NY.

CSTEP at UB is a grant-funded program sponsored by the New York State Department of Education to support talented underrepresented students pursuing careers in the STEM fields, licensed professions and health-related professions. CSTEP offers key preparation, resources and opportunities critical to student success.

Story continued on page 4.
Shawn Gibson, Pre-Med/Biological Sciences

Summer Mentor: Dr. Laura Rusche, Associate Professor
Project: Rif2 Protein, Product of Subfunctionalization or Neofunctionalization
Internship Placement: Department of Biological Sciences

Rif2 protein in Saccharomyces cerevisiae protects telomere ends. Rif2 attaches to Rap1, which binds directly to telomeres to inhibit telomere lengthening. Sequencing studies showed that Rif2 proteins descended from replication Orc4 proteins. However, can a telomere protein evolve from a replication protein? We believe that Rif2 is a product of subfunctionalization, meaning that the duplicated Orc4 resulted in two genes, each retaining information from the original function. To test this theory, chromatin Immunoprecipitation (ChIP) was assessed in the duplicated Kluyveromyces lactis species. Our results show that Orc4 doesn’t associate with telomeres, therefore indicating that Rif2 is a product of neofunctionalization.

One thing that I gained from being a research intern was that I absolutely love presenting and explaining things to others. I loved all mock orals, oral presentations and poster presentations. It’s something about engaging with another person and explaining the significance of a topic that made this summer research program easy and enjoyable for me.

FUTURE PLANS: To obtain a Medical Doctor degree, become a Pediatrician and mentor the younger generation.

Valeria Prieto, Civil & Structural Engineering

Summer Mentor: Dr. Ravi Ranade, Assistant Professor
Project: The Optimization of Ultra-High Performance Concrete: Pozzolanic Materials and Particle Size Distribution Method
Internship Placement: Department of Civil, Structural and Environmental Engineering

Ultra-High Performance Concrete (UHPC) is a special construction material with significantly greater compressive strength than conventional concrete. However, UHPC generally requires more cement, leading to an increase in the material’s cost and carbon footprint. In this study, proportions of pozzolanic materials will be evaluated in a mix design based on particle size distribution. It is expected that the resulting densely packed mix will display higher compressive strength and enhanced durability. This development can potentially lead to a framework for the production of UHPC, with given compressive strengths, that optimizes the use of more sustainable ingredients in the interest of the environment and society.

Overall, my experience with this program exceeded my expectations. I learned a lot about research, graduate school, and professionalism. I made connections with people, and at the same time, my love for Buffalo as a second home grew. I’m excited for the upcoming year because I can continue my research and use what I learned in my classes and during interviews for internships. There were no cons to this experience. I will be recommending this program to every UB CSTEP student because I am certain in the fact that they will only find it beneficial and continue to meet the expectations that follow every CSTEP student that completes this program.

FUTURE PLANS: I plan to graduate with a master’s degree in Structural Engineering and own a successful engineering firm in New York City.

“Valeria Prieto
Junior, Civil & Structural Engineering

“I loved my genetics class from spring semester so I wanted to do research this summer with them. I’ve become more interested in my research, enjoy presenting my research and show passion in my research.”

“Shawn Gibson
Senior, Biological Sciences
*2015 Summer Cohort Leader

“No matter how small of a contribution you may think you are making, if you’re doing research, your contribution is still an advancement in knowledge and, therefore, an advancement for the world.”
Christina Aponte, Pre-Dental/Biomedical Sciences

Summer Mentor: Dr. Houbo Jiang, Assistant Professor
Project: Generation of Regionally Specified Dopaminergic Neural Cells from Induced Pluripotent Stem Cells
Research Site: Physiology and Biophysics

Parkinson’s disease is a neurodegenerative disease involving the malfunctioning and death of dopaminergic (DA) neurons. Due to the depletion of the neurons producing dopamine, there is a lack of the neurotransmitters responsible for communicating the signals necessary for movement and coordination. We found that differentiating induced pluripotent stem cells (iPSC) to DA neurons then transplanting the DA neurons to the rat brain may enable highly efficient epigenetic reprogramming. After 3-4 months, we will extract the brain, mount it on a sequence of slides, and observe their differentiation. We have yet to produce consistent results, but we will continue to repeat experimentation and review mechanics of the protocol.

After participating in this program, I have learned that the best way to learn something new is to completely immerse yourself in it. This experience has provided me with the skill set that will apply to future research and the challenges that life brings. Dedication to your passion will lead you to prosper and the sky is the limit to what you can dream of.

FUTURE PLANS: To obtain a Doctorate of Dentistry and to work as a General Dentist in the United States military.

Kwame Boakye-Yiadom, Pre-Pharm/Biological Sciences

Summer Mentor: Dr. Hilliard Kutscher, Research Assistant Professor
Project: Formulation of Biodegradable Nanoparticles for the Treatment of Tuberculosis
Internship Placement: Department of Chemistry

Tuberculosis is a prominent global health concern. New treatments are needed to overcome problems associated with drug resistance, treatment length, and patient compliance. Nanoparticles can reduce side effects associated with systemic drug distribution and improve intracellular drug concentration. Rifampin loaded poly(lactic-co-glycolic acid) (PLGA) nanoparticles were synthesized by a water-oil-water emulsion technique. Unfortunately, these nanoparticles suffer from low encapsulating efficiency and rapid release. We will study the effect of changing the rifampin:PLGA ratio and surfactant concentration on size, release rate, and encapsulation efficiency. This research aims to further our understanding of the most effective way to fabricate rifampin loaded PLGA nanoparticles.

The CSTEP Summer Research Program was an overall eye-opening experience. I have gained hands-on experience in my field of interest, and the opportunity to build relationships that may follow me for the rest of my life. Furthermore, I was able to explore the culture of Buffalo in ways I did not even know existed. This program has truly helped me grow as an individual.

FUTURE PLANS: To become a licensed Pharmacist.

“Get used to finding your own answers, from books, scientific journal articles, and laboratory colleagues. Also, take initiative and stay positive.”
The CSTEP Summer Research Program (SRP) prepares students for the laboratory environment and serves as a catalyst for future endeavors. Students learn the importance of research and gain invaluable skills to use in education, the workforce, and beyond. According to CSTEP Director Shanna Crump-Owens, the program has also served as a pipeline for students to enter graduate or professional school. For many students, conducting research offers an opportunity to gain invaluable career experience. Others see it as a chance to gain recognition as innovators.

Students of the CSTEP Summer Research Program are engaging in research for a medley of reasons. Many of them see it as an invaluable learning experience. Judite Ayeh, a senior majoring in Biomedical Sciences, believes that “research is a stepping stone into higher knowledge.” She sees research as an avenue for students to learn valuable skills from professionals in academia. As a third-year Civil Engineering major, Valeria Prieto shares a similar view. Valeria says, “No matter how small of a contribution you may think you are making, if you’re doing research, your contribution is still an advancement in knowledge, and therefore, an advancement for the world. Researchers share a curiosity for the unknown and seek to be a part of scientific discovery.” Many students see research as a method of interacting with knowledgeable professionals.

Clarence Uzoho, a Mechanical Engineering student, viewed this opportunity as a bridge between university and industry, stating: “[Undergraduate research] helps you derive knowledge that can help you in future classes. It gives you a head start into the real world.” In addition to networking, many students see research as the precursor of innovation, “Research allows me to explore other research opportunities within my discipline,” says Zakiya Rhodie, a junior majoring in Pharmacology and Toxicology. Rhodie’s research concerns the effects of alcohol on microglial phagocytosis. Jennifer Donato, a senior Biotechnology major, sees her research as a way to learn new ideas, hoping “explore the topics in a real live setting with real data.” Shawn Gibson shares a similar sentiment: “research helped him “choose if [he] wanted to do MD or MD/PhD.” Shawn worked on Rif2 Protein, Product of Subfunctionalization or Neofunctionalization. Christina Aponte, a sophomore majoring in Biological Sciences, said of her research experience: “This program has shown me that it is at your weakest moment that you are truly defined. When immersed in the lab environment, it is all unknown to you at first. But the complete immersion has offered an opportunity for growth and allowed my curiosity to wander.”

Peter Okorozo also hopes to leave his mark on history. Peter is a senior Pharmaceutical Sciences major investigated the effect of Hedgehog Signaling Inhibitor (LDE225) on Gli-1 expression in stromal cells of pancreatic cancer. Peter said, “I wanted to learn more about a certain topic. I met a pharmaceutical sciences professor whose lecture I liked and I wanted to work with him. He spoke about how drugs would impact certain cancer cells and I wanted to learn more. His topic inspired me.” According to Oluwatosin Oniyide, “without research, you don’t really know if the answers are valid. With research, we can find the answers for ourselves.” Oniyide is in his third year studying Biomedical Sciences. During the Summer Research Symposium, held in the Newman Center on the North Campus, 17 UB faculty members judged the students’ poster presentations. The students with the highest-scoring presentations received an all-expense paid trip to present their research during the annual CSTEP Statewide Conference, sponsored by the CSTEP program at Syracuse University, being held during the spring 2016 semester at the Sagamore Resort in Lake George, NY.

This year’s winners of the 2015 CSTEP Summer Research Symposium:
1. Jennifer Donato, Biotechnology
2. Zakiya Rhodie, Pharmacology & Toxicology
3. Folake Olaleye, Biological Sciences
4. Oluwatosin Oniyide, Biomedical Sciences
5. Kwame Boakye-Yiadom, Biological Sciences
6. Shawn Gibson, Biological Sciences

Pre-collegiate students from UB’s STEP [Science and Technology Entry Program], BEAM [Buffalo-Area Engineering Awareness for Minorities] and Upward Bound programs also attended the symposium. The high school students attended not only to view the presented research, but to gain invaluable exposure to collegiate-level STEM research.
This past 2015 spring semester, 10 UB CSTEP students participated in the 23rd Annual CSTEP Statewide Conference entitled “Journeys Beyond Excellence”, on April 17-19, 2015 at The Sagamore Resort on Lake George. Nearly 600 CSTEP students and staff from 45 colleges and universities across New York State were present. The three-day conference exposed students to a variety of motivational, academic and career-related workshops, dynamic and engaging speakers, and a graduate and opportunities fair. In addition, the research poster competition served as the conference centerpiece.

During the conference, 117 students competed in the Research Poster Competition in natural sciences, physical sciences, technology, social sciences and human services categories demonstrating research conducted via the CSTEP Research Program. Our poster presenters included: Gabriella Jaramillo and Bethany Walton in the Psychology category, Timothy Semon in the Cell & Molecular Biology category, Jacob Milling in the Chemistry category, Kemji Eke in the Medicine, Health, & Wellness category, Austin Price in the Microbiology category, and Emmanuel Obogbaimhe in the Social Sciences, Human Services, Education, and Computer Science category. Abas Omar, Akunne Kanu, and Salvatory Izoduka served as observers. All presenters received a medal for their participation in the research competition. The conference ended with an insightful keynote address by Dr. Deborah Gibloa, youth development expert.

Congratulations to our research scholars!
CSTEP’S OUTSTANDING ALUMNI

Ian Waite, Engineer

**DEGREE(S) YEAR OF GRADUATION:** Industrial Engineering, B.S. 2009; Masters, 2011.

**ORIGINAL CITY:** Kingston, Jamacia

**CURRENT CITY:** Hudson Falls, NY

**CURRENT JOB POSITION:** Quality Engineer for General Electric Company

**COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:** Sunday school teacher and tutor at Ghana United Methodist Church.

**ORGANIZATIONS AND AFFILIATIONS:** America Society for Quality (Hudson Mohawk Chapter).

**ONE FOND MEMORY OF UB AND/OR CSTEP:** Fond of having great guidance and mentoring from Miss Tia and Mrs. Shanna Crump-Owens from the CSTEP office.

**WHO YOU WOULD LIKE TO THANK:** Shanna Crump-Owens, Patricia Greer, Dr. Rakesh Nagi (Department of Industrial & Systems Engineering), Dr. Sean Wu (Department of Industrial & Systems Engineering), Dr. Victor Paquet (Department of Industrial & Systems Engineering), Dr. Pamela McCauley Bush, and all CSTEP members.

Darowan Akajagbor, PharmD

**DEGREE(S) YEAR OF GRADUATION:** Pharmacy, PharmD, 2009

**ORIGINAL CITY:** Westchester, NY

**CURRENT CITY:** Syracuse, NY

**CURRENT JOB POSITION:** Clinical Assistant Professor, D’Youville College of Pharmacy and Critical Care Pharmacist at SUNY Upstate Medical Center

**PROFESSIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS:** Completing two years of post graduate training and post PharmD degree and obtaining board certification in Pharmacotherapy (BCPS).

**AWARDS/HONORS:** AB Lemon Scholar 2009, UB Pharmacy School Ambassador, CSTEP Top Ten Scholar.

**WHO YOU WOULD LIKE TO THANK:** Dr. Valery Chu, my mentor and friend.
If you have your sights set on applying to graduate school, it’s likely you’re aware of at least some of the benefits of earning an advanced degree. But aside from the big advantages, such as the possibility of better job prospects, are you familiar with the lesser-known benefits, such as graduate school’s impact on income and parenting?

Here’s a closer look at personal and professional advantages of attending graduate school could provide:

**PERSONAL BENEFITS**

The more education you have, the healthier you are. According to data from the College Board’s report, “Education Pays 2013: The Benefits of Higher Education for Individuals and Society,” people of all ages who have a higher level of education also exercise more. Those who are between the ages of 24 and 34 with more education exercise 14% more than people who have not earned a college degree.

The report also found that higher levels of education can have an impact on parenting. Mothers with more education tend to spend more time with their children than women with less education.

**PROFESSIONAL BENEFITS**

Then, there’s a world of career benefits that come with earning a graduate degree. Higher earnings, for example, are among the immediate advantages professionals with an advanced degree could see. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, in 2012 those with a bachelor’s degree made about $1,000 in median weekly earnings. Those who held graduate degrees had median weekly earnings between $1,300 and $1,700, proving that education does indeed pay.

A higher level of education also means more career opportunities, as individuals who hold advanced degrees may be able to secure the types of jobs they want, as opposed to the ones for which they need to settle. According to the College Board report, higher education correlates with greater job satisfaction.

Of course, feeling happier about the job you hold can impact your personal health, but this isn’t the only way having a graduate degree can benefit your well-being. The college Board revealed that those who earned advanced degrees are 4% more likely to receive employer-provided health insurance than workers with a bachelor’s degree alone.

These are just a few of the many benefits that can accompany the pursuit of a master’s degree. Graduate Guide’s infographic contains even more.

**Reproduced from:**


**Sources:**

http://bls.gov/emp/ep_char_001.htm


**Infographic:**

http://blog.online.saintleo.edu/career-advice/Do-Graduate-Degrees-Pay-Off-Infographic
THINKING ABOUT APPLYING TO LAW SCHOOL?

Here are a few tips to consider:

1. **Register** on lsac.org as soon as possible. LSAC is an online service that provides you with an easy and effective way to ensure that you have assembled everything you need to successfully complete the law school application process. This is where you will register for the LSAT, complete your online applications, and assemble your recommendation letters, personal statements, and transcript.

2. **Maintain a GPA above a 3.0.** Law school is a rigorous program. Strong academics matter! Your undergraduate GPA shows that you have the work ethic, study skills, and discipline that are needed to succeed academically.

3. **Prepare for and take for the LSAT.** The LSAT is the standardized exam that is required for all ABA law school. It is crucial that you prepare for the LSAT! This exam tests a standard measure of acquired reading and verbal reasoning skills, and it can make or break your chances of getting into law school. Preparing for the LSAT can be costly, so don’t forget that CSTEP provides the Kaplan Scholarship for qualified students to help prepare them for the LSAT through an on-site Kaplan exam-prep course. It has been shown that students who take an exam prep course are likely to do better on standardized exams.

4. **Apply early.** The earlier you apply to schools the greater your chances are of getting in and getting scholarships. At the beginning of the application cycle, schools have more slots to fill and are more likely to accept good candidates.

5. Most law schools require recommendation letters. Generally, they will require that at least one of your letters of recommendation is from a professor. It is never too late to start building a relationship with your professors. An easy way to do this is by going to their office hours.

6. **A Personal Statement** may also be required. This may be one of the most difficult parts of the application process. Remember that CSTEP provides assistance in personal statement revisions and edits!

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**CURCA: Funding Your Research**

$500 Undergraduate Research Awards

**Are you interested in doing research?** If so, the Center for Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities (CURCA), $500 undergraduate research awards may be of interest to you.

This research award could be used to purchase new equipment or materials that may be vital in conducting your research. This funding could also be used to cover the cost of covering your attendance to a research conference to present your research.

**The Benefits:**

- Receiving funding for your research looks good on applications to graduate schools
- This money could be used for materials your lab may not otherwise have access to
- Attending a research conference to present or even to attend can be an enlightening experience
- Applying for this Award is great practice for other grants you may be interested in applying to in the future

Applications are accepted and reviewed throughout the Fall and Spring Semesters. It would be a good idea to start working with a research mentor on your application now; the first deadline for applications this Fall semester will be **Wednesday, October 7, 2015.**

*For more information, visit http://curca.buffalo.edu/students/funding.php*

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**CSTEP Laptop Loaner Program**

Did your computer crash? Is it being slow? Need one for the semester? CSTEP has a laptop loaner program. Students interested in borrowing a mini netbook should stop by the office today!
Dear CSTEP Familia,

My name is Anaiss Rijo and it is my pleasure to introduce myself as one of CSTEP’s Graduate Assistants for the 2015-2016 academic year. I have worked at CSTEP since the 2015 spring semester and met many of you then. However, I look forward to continue meeting new faces!

Becoming a Graduate Assistant at CSTEP has been an amazing experience and it is very dear to my heart. I am originally from Harlem, New York and graduated with a BA in International Criminal Justice from CUNY, John Jay of Criminal Justice. As a first generation college student, I was confused as to which career I wanted to pursue and how I would obtain the resources to do so. I did research within the academic departments and immediately came across the Ronald H. Brown Law School Summer Program (RHB) at St. John’s University Law School. RHB was founded in order to increase the population of underrepresented students in the legal field. Intrigued by the law, I applied and was selected.

As a RHB scholar, I was provided with various resources such as judicial internships, a free LSAT prep course, and career development. Currently, I am a third year law student at SUNY Buffalo Law School; one year away from becoming an attorney. Without a program like RHB, it would have been extremely difficult for me to be where I am today.

CSTEP, like RHB was to me, is a resource that all students should take advantage of! As a graduate assistant at CSTEP, I will ensure you are provided with the needed tools to succeed in your career path. It is a hard battle to accomplish your goals, however, you are not alone. CSTEP is your support system so as long as you are a productive member and utilize all of the opportunities it has to offer. My number one advice as a student is to become well informed, be proactive, and persistent.

I look forward to working with you and wish you all the best this academic year!

Hello CSTEP Students,

My name is Khadijat Olagoke and I am your new Graduate Assistant for the 2015-2016 academic year. I met some of you at last year’s Student Recognition Dinner, and I look forward to connecting with the rest of you in the upcoming school year.

I am originally from Staten Island and have been in Buffalo for five years. I received my BA in Political Science with a concentration in International Studies from SUNY Buffalo State College. I am currently pursuing a Juris Doctorate from SUNY Buffalo Law School. I aspire to one day practice in landlord/tenant, property, real estate, and constitutional law. It is also my dream to develop affordable yet quality homes in low-income neighborhoods in New York.

This past summer I worked with CSTEP students in the CSTEP Summer Research Program. One of my favorite experiences was seeing the students present at the McNair Research Conference in Niagara Falls. They were so prepared for their presentations and their posters were professional. I witnessed our students transform academically, professionally and socially within the eight weeks, and I look forward to seeing your growth this school year as well. Whether you need assistance in choosing a career, applying to graduate school, resumes or personal statements, having trouble in your classes, or simply want to talk, stop by the office anytime to see what I can do for you.
CSTEP students have had the privilege of painting, repairing roofs, putting up siding, demolishing interiors of houses, assisting in electrical and masonry work, and landscaping. The students walk away knowing they helped a family come closer to owning their own house.

This past summer, 21 students volunteered at a house on Niagara Street in the City of Buffalo. Habitat for Humanity staff say our students, in 6 hours of work, completed nearly 6 weeks worth of work done by regular Habitat for Humanity staff, which is all on a volunteer basis.

This Fall 2015, CSTEP students will once again have the opportunity to volunteer in another home renovation project with Habitat for Humanity on Saturday, September 26.

Habitat for Humanity believes that every man, woman and child should have a decent, safe and affordable place to live. They build and repair houses all over the world using volunteer labor and donations. Their partner families purchase these houses through no-profit, no-interest mortgage loans.

Currently in the process of applying to graduate school? UB CSTEP has a partnership with several institutions that will waive the fee associated with your application. This will give our students the ability to apply to multiple graduate schools, greatly reducing the cost of applying.

For example, the following schools currently have fee waivers in place for CSTEP students: The University at Buffalo Graduate School, Roswell Park Cancer Institute, SUNY Buffalo Law School, SUNY Brockport Graduate School, Albert Einstein School of Medicine, University of Maryland, Rice University PhD Program, Columbia University’s School of Engineering and Applied Science (Columbia Engineering), SUNY Upstate Medical School and the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry and Graduate School. These institutions recognize the importance of increasing the representation of underrepresented students pursuing the STEM, allied health and licensed profession.

For more information about the verification process for the CSTEP Graduate School Application Fee Waiver, please visit the CSTEP Office in 222 Norton Hall. For students interested in applying for graduate programs at The University at Buffalo, visit The Graduate School’s Admissions website at http://grad.buffalo.edu/Academics/Policies-Procedures/Admissions.html for more information on the fee waiver process.
CSTEP KAPLAN SCHOLARSHIP

UB CSTEP provides competitive opportunity to receive partial funding for on-campus Kaplan courses

As the world leader in test prep, Kaplan has been helping students succeed on exams and get into their choice schools for more than 70 years.

KAPLAN

The Expertise & Support
Learn from exam experts who coach and support you throughout your prep

The Cutting-Edge Study Plan
Follow a dynamic study plan that serves up the right material

The Realistic Practice
Take the most realistic full-length and section-length tests, plus quizzes on any exam topic

The Results
Get a higher score, guaranteed or your money back*

*Higher Score Guarantee:
Conditions and restrictions apply. For complete guarantee eligibility requirements, visit kaptest.com/hsq.

Standardized testing remains an integral component of graduate school admissions criteria. The CSTEP Kaplan Scholarship is available for eligible CSTEP students applying to graduate or professional school. This scholarship helps CSTEP students prepare for standardized exams required for graduate school admissions.

Several of the licensed professions that CSTEP targets require individuals attend graduate/professional school (i.e. medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, physical therapy, law, etc.). Scholarship recipients have been successful in gaining entrance into graduate school and report that Kaplan preparation courses significantly improved their scores, resulting in increased abilities to compete for graduate school admissions.

You can apply to enroll in the following preparatory courses offered through Kaplan including: GRE, DAT, MCAT, LSAT, PCAT, etc. Each course includes classes, books, online resources, practice tests and personalized study plans.

How to apply?
Visit the CSTEP Office in 222 Norton to speak with staff about the application process. The entire process can last 4-6 weeks prior to your prep class beginning.

What you will need to complete on the application:
- Date/Time/Location for the Kaplan Course and Exam you wish to take (online prep classes not applicable)
- Personal Statement (revised and approved by CSTEP Graduate Assistant)
- Resume (revised and approved by CSTEP Graduate Assistant)
- Six schools listed that you plan you are applying to (2 safe, 2 target, 2 dream)

Visit www.kaptest.com for more information about Kaplan Test Prep.
SERVE AND LEARN

CSTEP
COMMUNITY HEALTH EDUCATOR
A Service Learning Partnership with Upstate New York Transplant Services (UNYTS)

OUR MISSION
The mission of CSTEP Community Health Educator (CHE) is to increase the number of individuals participating in the organ donor registry through engagement in service learning. Our commitment is to enhance and save lives through organ, tissue, eye, and blood donation, while maintaining respect for those who give the gift of life. Allied health and science majors are charged with creating awareness and educating campus peers and the Buffalo community regarding the importance of organ donation – a critical health issue.

Service learning integrates meaningful community service with instruction and reflection to enrich the learning experience, teach civic responsibility, and strengthen communities.

Requirements:
- Must attend orientation/training AND class sessions
- Must conduct educational workshops for UB and Buffalo communities
- Must complete 75 hours of service
- Must plan and facilitate a campus-wide organ donor registry drive

Benefits:
- Structured training
- Positively impacting a critically important health issue
- Develop team building, public speaking and presentation skills
- 2-credit hour course
- Networking with healthcare professionals

Applications due Monday, November 16th, 2015
Orientation/Training Wednesday - Saturday, January 20th-23rd, 2016
For more info, contact Shanna Crump-Owens, CSTEP Director at 645-2234 or email sicrump@buffalo.edu
Preparing for Graduate School

WHEN
Friday, October 9th, 2015
Noon - 1:00PM

WHERE
567 Capen Hall
Lunch provided for guests

Join your peers & a panel of current grad students sharing tips on:

- The Admissions Process
- Balancing Course & Work Loads
- Funding Sources for School
- Choosing a Major
- and much more!

For information, visit us in
222 Norton Hall
716-645-2234
cpmc.buffalo.edu/cstep

Follow us on:

TO WHOM MUCH IS GIVEN, MUCH IS EXPECTED
SEPTEMBER

7 MON  CSTEP Welcome Back BBQ, 1:00-4:00pm, South Lake Village Community Center
9 WED  CSTEP Service Learning Project - Community Health Educator (CHE) - 2015 Cohort Applications Available*
17 THUR  “Blueprint for Success” with Buihe Madu, 101 Davis Hall, 3:30-5:30pm
26 SAT  Community Service: Habitat for Humanity, 8:30am-2:00pm, Location: Site TBA

OCTOBER

9 FRI  CSTEP MONTHLY MEETING: Preparing for Graduate School, Noon-1:00PM, 567 Capen - LUNCH SERVED
9 FRI  Recruitment begins for 2016 CSTEP Summer Research Program Cohort, Applications Available!
22 THUR  RX For Success “Preparing for Pharmacy School,” 4:00pm, TBA Kapoor Hall, South Campus Pharmacy School (Dinner Served)
30 FRI  CSTEP MONTHLY MEETING - "Maximizing Your Potential" with Dr. Celeste Owens Noon-1:30pm, 567 Capen Hall
TBD  CSTEP Law Day: Panel of current UB Law students, local attorneys, and an UB Law School admissions office will answer questions and share their experiences, 3:00-5:00pm, Location TBD

NOVEMBER

5 WED  CSTEP Connect: Opportunity to shadow CSTEP Alumni at work during the Winter Session - Applications Available!
6 FRI  CSTEP Service Learning Project - Community Health Educator (CHE) Service Learning Project - 2015 Application Deadline*
13 FRI  CSTEP MONTHLY MEETING: Undergraduate Research Luncheon A & End of Semester Reception, Noon-1:30PM, 567 Capen Hall - LUNCH SERVED
5 WED  CSTEP Connect application deadline

DECEMBER

4 FRI  CSTEP MONTHLY MEETING: Undergraduate Research Luncheon B & End of Semester Reception, Noon-1:30PM, 567 Capen Hall - LUNCH SERVED
11 FRI  Last day of classes!!
The Collegiate Science and Technology Entry Program (CSTEP) provides services and activities to increase talented underrepresented students’ retention into the licensed professions and careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). CSTEP meets this objective by providing the following services: academic and career advisement, paid academic year and summer research/internship opportunities, tutoring, academic and career workshops, the CSTEP/Kaplan Scholarship, personal statement review and assistance with the graduate school application process, the CSTEP Excellence Scholarship, monthly student meetings, newsletters, attendance to conferences, and other enrichment activities.