Faculty Diversity Scholars Program Overview
November 2015
Faculty Diversity Scholars Program (FDSP)

• Established in 1996 by the Minority Academic Advancement Committee
• Serves as a recruitment tool for faculty from underrepresented backgrounds
• Provides support for Scholars to advance their research and lay foundation for long term success
FDSP Oversight Committee

- 14 Members (voting and non-voting)
- Representation from each school
- Reviews applications, makes recommendations to the VPFA (and Provost)
- Conducts regularly scheduled progress reviews with funded scholars
- Reviews program every two years; recommends necessary changes to the VPFA
- Administered by the Office of Faculty Affairs
2015 Awardee: Ana Maldonado-Contreras, PhD
Department of Microbiology and Physiological Systems

Project Title: Role of the microbiome in long non-coding RNAs IncRNA expression associated with inflammation.

Objective: Determine the role of the gut bacteria in orchestrating the expression of (IncRNA) controlling inflammation in IBD patients.

Mentors:
Beth McCormick
Kate Fitzgerald
Larry Stern
Milagros Rosal
Louise Maranda

Collaborators:
David Cave MD PhD
Barbara Olendzki, RD, MPH
Andrew Hoffman DVM, DVSc, Diplomate, ACVIM
Director, Regenerative Medicine Laboratory
Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine, Tufts University
Program / Program Outcomes

- 15 scholars funded (past and current)
- 8 scholars remain as active faculty at UMW
Call for Applications

The office of Faculty Affairs (OFA) announces a call for applications for the FDSP. Applications are due to the OFA by Monday, **February 29th, 2016**.

**Eligibility:**
Potential applicants are screened for eligibility based on status of underutilization of an underrepresented group within the department or field. In addition, applicants must be:
1. Recruited into a faculty position and appointed at or above the rank of Instructor.
2. Sponsored by a department/program and allotted 50-75% FTE toward scholarly activity.
3. Assigned a primary mentor and a mentoring team.

**Award Information:**
Resources up to $300,000 over 3 years may include salary support, research startup costs, supplies/equipment, lab personnel, and travel for conferences and professional activities.