Research Alliance for Minorities

Al Geist, Computer Science and Mathematics Division
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Summary

Outreach through the Research Alliance for Minorities program continues to identify students and faculty members in science, mathematics, engineering, and technology disciplines for summer internships and collaborative research in support of the long-term goal of increasing the number of underrepresented minorities with advanced degrees in the workforce. Developing and expanding research and educational relationships with historically black colleges and universities and other minority educational institutions is carried out through the Computer Science and Mathematics Division, Computing and Computational Sciences Directorate at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory.

Representatives from predominantly minority colleges and universities participated in a faculty/mentor workshop held at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) on December 2, 2003. Faculty members from Alabama A&M University, City University of New York (CUNY), Clark Atlanta University, LeMoyne-Owen College, Spelman College, Wofford College, and the University of Tennessee at Knoxville met with ORNL staff members for a first-hand view of on-going research in which their students could become involved through the summer internship program.

Research topics ranged from computational biology, including Genomes to Life, to cluster computing to complex systems to climate dynamics to astrophysics to a wide range of applications in the Computational Sciences and Engineering Division including numerous Homeland Security applications. (See presentations at: http://www.csm.ornl.gov/workshops/RAMFall03/agenda.html.) Interactive discussions included progressive academic course requirements and preparation for the students relative to the collaborative research involved in the summer internship program as well as potential joint projects between faculty members and ORNL research staff.

Faculty members toured the new world-class Center for Computational Sciences facilities where the Cray X1 *Phoenix*, the IBM SP *Cheetah*, the SGI Altix *Ram* and the *HiTORC* cluster of the Tennessee Oak Ridge Cluster Project computing resources reside.

Tours through the Science Exploratorium and the reconfigurable CAVE gave faculty members added insight to consider when

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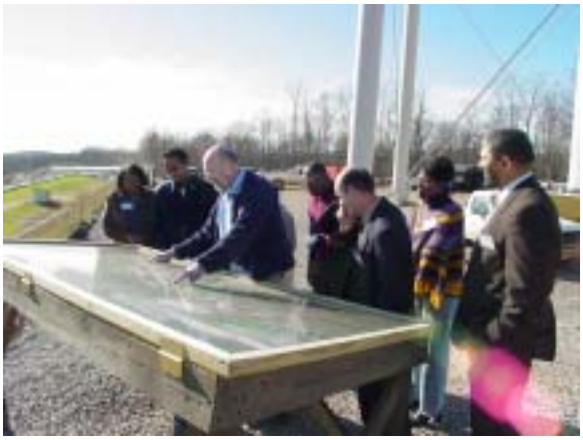
identifying potential research projects in visualization and mathematics for their students.

Pictured in front of *Phoenix* from left to right are: James Hammonds, CUNY; David Sykes, Wofford College; Iretta Kearse, Andrea Lawrence, Spelman College; Alexander Fluellen, Clark Atlanta University; Lesia Hopkins, LeMoyne-Owen College; and Walter Odom, University of Tennessee.

The Spallation Neutron Source (SNS) construction site was another high point of the day. Steve Trotter, SNS Project Facilities Division, explained the history of the site, the project, and the construction to date. He outlined the projects and experiments to be carried out when the SNS facilities are completed.



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