

Community Members Express Benefits of AGEP Involvement

EAST LANSING, Michigan, September 6, 2012 - Michigan State University AGEP Program hosted another Learning Community Meeting in the Kellogg Conference Center and Hotel in East Lansing, MI. Over 30 participants, MSU AGEP members, and faculty from numerous Minority-Serving Institutions (MSI's) were in attendance.

One of the hallmarks of the MSU AGEP Learning Community is the CrossTalk session. For the September meeting, Jelani Zarif, Graduate Student in Cell & Molecular Biology, presented on "Androgen Receptor regulation of Matriptase, a serine protease up regulated in Prostate Cancer". Members of the AGEP student steering committee took some time to mention the influence of AGEP has had on their growth as scholars.

Various members of the Community took the opportunity to explain how AGEP had been instrumental in their journeys at MSU. They highlighted appreciation of the cross-functional dimensions of the Learning community and the exposure to disciplines outside of their programs, as well as how the AGEP Scholar Award has funding travel to conferences and research projects. One particular participant described how she met a faculty member during a meeting, who later recommended her for a teaching opportunity within the University.

Michigan State University is guided by the belief that the AGEP Learning Community can effect social change across communities, departments and the institution at large. The mission of the program is to create an environment of intellectual exchange, social cohesion, professional development to change campus climate at MSU. For years the AGEP Community has been a positive impact in the lives of its members and fuels the passion of university faculty, post-docs and undergraduate students alike.

The September meeting was once again a stimulating success and we look forward to the future research of these bright young scholars. To keep abreast of the latest of upcoming meetings, check the event website at www.grad.msu.edu/AGEP.

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