

## **FAST Intro to Global Science Initiative**

**The Program:** “Intro to Global Science” is a non-credit science program for undergraduate minority students in the USA. Introducing US minority students to global scientists will increase their understanding of science and increase the likelihood that these undergraduate students will advance up the career ladder in the sciences – by entering graduate school or seeking a science-based job upon earning their bachelor’s degree. In addition, some participants may develop a working relationship with their host and perhaps return to do research or earn a degree. This program is not about “educational exchange” or “cultural awareness,” but rather focused on science literacy and scientific achievement.

Many overseas research centers and institutions of higher education campuses have Fulbright alumni on the faculty or the research staff or have Fulbrighters among their recent graduates. This initiative helps link US undergraduate students with the Fulbright alumni living in outside of the USA. The students and a professor will travel abroad for 7-14 days to visit labs, perhaps conduct a short research project and/or participate in an international conference in partnership with the foreign-based Fulbright scholar/alum.

**Background:** The Fulbright Academy of Science & Technology is a global organization that creates opportunities for collaboration and catalyzes progress in a wide range of science and technology fields. In prior years, members of the Fulbright Academy have hosted intro to global science programs in Barbados, Ecuador, Hungary, the Philippines and Jamaica (photos).

### **Pictures from the 2011 Program in Jamaica**



An international organization founded by alumni of the Fulbright Exchange Program.

Fulbright Academy of Science & Technology, PO Box 284, Cape Elizabeth, Maine (ME) 04107-0284 USA

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[www.FulbrightAcademy.org](http://www.FulbrightAcademy.org)



**Alumni Hosts:** Hosts are professionals and/or post-doc/graduate students from among the thousands of young foreign scientists who have come to the USA on a Fulbright in recent years and are now back in their home country. The undergraduate students benefit from the interaction with a student, researcher or professional who knows the local community but also has ties with US institutions. Because of travel costs, most hosts are in Europe, Latin America or the Caribbean.

**Participants & Funding:** Each institution typically sends several students and a faculty advisor. Participants may be self-funded, but some universities have been able to tap the NSF Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (LSAMP) program for funds. The funds are used to cover travel/ accommodations for the students, a small per-diem for his/her expenses when abroad and other costs, such as conference registration (when relevant). Participants generally stay at a hotel or guest house.

The alumni hosts are responsible for managing the program. The Fulbright Academy's role is making the introductions. The Fulbright Academy does not manage educational or cultural exchanges, and this initiative is not part of the Fulbright Exchange Program or the US Department of State.

**Further Information:** If you wish to be involved in this program as a host or as a participant, please contact the Fulbright Academy at +1-207-799-3098 or by email at [info@FulbrightAcademy.org](mailto:info@FulbrightAcademy.org).



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## Summer 2011 Intro to Global Science

### STEM Research and Science on the Ground in Jamaica

This ten-day program was hosted by Fulbright alumni in Jamaica, an island country in the Caribbean. With 2.8 million inhabitants, Jamaica is the third most populous English speaking country in the Americas (after USA and Canada).

The 2011 program explored topics relevant to several STEM disciplines (Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics), and the application of these fields of knowledge by Fulbright alumni in Jamaica.

The program was led by Dr. Sandra Knight, a medical doctor affiliated with the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. She earned her medical degree from the University of Santa Clara and a MPH from the University of the West Indies. She was a Fulbright scholar/Humphrey fellow to Emory University in Atlanta in 2007.

Estimated per-person costs:

\$600-900 for airfare from USA to Jamaica

\$500 for food and other on-island costs

\$300-500 for accommodation

\$500 honorarium to the Fulbright hosts.

Actual figures will depend on number of participants

Note: The hosts typically give a discount on the participation fee for faculty / students at institutional members of the Fulbright Academy.

2012 PROGRAM: May 5-12 - Serbia

### Education & Research in Jamaica:

Jamaica is home to five universities: the University of the West Indies--Mona Campus; the University of Technology--Jamaica (formerly The College of Art Science and Technology); the Northern Caribbean University (formerly West Indies College); the University College of The Caribbean, and the International University of the Caribbean.

On-island research institutions address the needs of the major sectors of the Jamaican economy: agriculture, mining, and manufacturing. (tourism and financial services are also a key part of the economy.)

### Background Information

- <http://kingston.usembassy.gov/>
- <http://www.lonelyplanet.com/jamaica>
- <http://www.mona.uwi.edu/>
- <http://www.utech.edu.jm/>



### For more information:

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