Pathway To Success

- National Institutes of Health (NIH)
  - Minority Access to Research Careers (MARC)
    - Undergraduate Student Training in Academic Research (U-STAR)
Primary Objective

- To graduate you as a highly trained underrepresented minority (URM).
  - You must complete a Ph.D. program at a tier-1 graduate school, specializing in one of the following areas:
    - Biomedical Sciences
    - Behavioral Science
Biomedical Science

- The application of biology-based science to medical use.
- If you enjoy the idea of diagnosing, analyzing and treating disease, then this is the path for you.
  - Research
  - Health monitoring
  - Treatment
- Average Annual Salary $74,000
Careers Domains

- Typical work environment ➔ hospital laboratory
  - **Chemical pathology** – diagnosing disease and testing organ function (blood analysis)
  - **Transfusion science** – checking for donor, transfusion and plasma compatibility
  - **Hematology** – identifying blood cell abnormalities and calculating hemoglobin levels
  - **Cellular pathology** – finding the cause of illness and disease by analyzing tissue samples
• **Medical microbiology** – locating micro-organisms and testing their reaction to antibiotics

• **Virology** – identifying viral infections and screening those at risk

• **Cytology** – finding abnormalities by analyzing cells collected from patients

• **Immunology** – treating diseases such as AIDS and leukemia by developing tests and treatments that influence the immune system.

• **Oncology** - (cancer biology) studies the causes and characteristics of cancer
Behavioral Science Career Opportunities:

- **Neuroscience**
  - Studying Brain Injuries and other Mechanisms (e.g., dopaminergic system) accounting for Human Behavior.

- **Behavioral Pharmacology**
  - Exploring the role of Neurotransmitters in Choice, Drug Addictions, Impulsiveness, and related health disparities.

- **Behavioral Sciences**
  - Creating methods and procedures to scientifically assess and treat behavior and developmental disabilities.
Training for Success

- Rising Junior Trainees will:
  - Be matched with a preceptor based on your research interest.
  - Conduct full-time research over a 2-year period.
    - Cross-disciplinary work is strongly encouraged
  - Work (on or off-site) to prepare for research at a T32 site in the rising senior year.
  - Attend year-round workshops/research seminars.
Training for Success

Rising Senior Trainees will:

◦ Attend an T32 site summer research training program
◦ Complete applications for at least 3 potential T32 institutions for Ph.D. work.
Professional Development Activities for MARC Juniors & Seniors

- Continuous interaction with preceptor
- Take 2-new courses (bioethics & biostatistics)

**Conference Presentations:**
- MARC Annual Colloquia each April
- Present new research data each year at either:
  - Annual Biomedical Conference for Minority Students (ABRCMS)
  - Association for Behavioral Analysis
Professional Development Activities for MARC Juniors & Seniors

- One peer-reviewed research publication
- Participation in 4-outreach activities
  - 2 K-12 school visits
  - 2 SSU campus tours provided to middle & high school students
  - Prepare for GRE examination
Financial Support for Professional Development

The MARC Program will provide:

- Stipend = $11,172 per year
- 60% of tuition and fees
- Cost for GRE examination
- Travel to participate in the off-site summer research internships and present research papers at the professional conferences
Responsibilities

- Maintain high GPA > 3.25
- Develop superior work ethics
- Meet **all requirements** as a MARC Trainee
- Complete the Ph.D. program at a T32 institution. Examples include:
  - Georgia State University
  - University of Georgia
  - University of Tennessee at Knoxville
  - Medical College of Georgia;
  - State University of New York at Stony Brook,
  - Florida State University;
  - Medical University of South Carolina
  - University of Alabama at Birmingham
  - University of North Texas Health Sciences Center
  - Vanderbilt University
Will you take this pathway toward success?

- If the answer is **certainly yes**, then complete the application.
- Decide between the **Biomedical** or **Behavior Science** pathways.
- Discuss your research interest with either:
  - Dr. C. Jones ➔ jonesce@savannahstate.edu
  - Dr. C. Aparicio ➔ apariciofc@savannahstate.edu
  - Dr. E. Purnell ➔ purnelle@savannahstate.edu