

LA-SIGMA

Louisiana Alliance for Simulation-Guided Materials Applications



Report on Student Retreat

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Purpose

The aim of the LA-SiGMA Student Retreat is to facilitate an environment where all Undergraduate, Graduate students, and Post-Docs supported by LA-SiGMA can establish network associations, present ongoing researches and findings, practice presentation skills, and discuss barriers and potential solutions, as it pertains to the respective science driver. The overarching goal is to have a student lead event that will foster discussions and provide positive feedback.

LA-SiGMA providing the necessary glue!



What we did: 1st Retreat



AGENDA

8:00 am – 8:30 am	Registration & Continental Breakfast
8:30 am – 8:45 am	Welcome - Fernando Soto & Chinedu Ekuma
8:45 am – 9:30 am	Guest Speaker – Dr. Diola Bagayoko
9:30 am – 10:30am	Presenters: Chinedu Ekuma (LSU) Fernando Soto (LATEch)
10:30 am – 10:45 am	BREAK
10:45 am – 11:30 pm	Presenters: Dr. Rajib Mukherjee (LATEch) Dr. Zi Yang Meng (LSU)
11:30 am – 12:30 pm	LUNCH
12:30 pm – 1:15 pm	Guest Speaker – Dr. Randall Hall
1:15 pm – 2:15 pm	Presenters: Conrad Moore, Kaushik Rajagopalan, Sheng Feng & Sameer Abu Asal (LSU) Michael Benissan (SUBR) Sarat Paluri (SUBR) Dr. Brian Novak (LSU)
2:15 pm – 2:30 pm	BREAK
2:30 pm – 3:30 pm	Presenters: Vishwa Podduturi (LATEch) Lei Zhao (SUBR) Ryky Nelson (LSU)
3:30 pm – 4:15 pm	Break Out Sessions
4:15 pm – 4:45 pm	General Discussions/Concerns
4:45 pm – 5:00 pm	Wrap-up & Closing Remarks



What we did: 2st Retreat



LA-SIGMA

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Annual Student Retreat

Tulane University

July 2, 2012

AGENDA

9:00 – 9:30 am	Registration & Continental Breakfast
9:30– 10:00 am	Discussion with other students
10:00 – 11:00 am	Feibelman: “ Junior Scientist Survival Training ”
11:00 – 11:20 am	Break
11:20 – 12:00 pm	Discussion with Dr. Peter Feibelman
12:00 – 13:00 pm	Lunch and talk to Dr. Peter Feibelman
13:00– 14:00 pm	Students’ elevator talks ¹
14:00– 15:00 pm	Presentation from Tulane career center
15:00– 15:15 pm	Break
15:15– 16:15 pm	Students’ elevator talks
16:15– 16:30 pm	Break
16:30 pm – 17:00 pm	Discussion and advice for next retreat



Louisiana
EPSCoR

Guest Speaker -1



Dr. Diola Bagayoko gives a talk to LASiGMA students on the Art of Effective Communication.





Guest Speaker -1



Dr. Randall Hall talks about how to make it in the business a. k. a the science world.





Guest Speaker -2



Dr. Peter J. Feibelman,
the author of “A Ph.D. is
not Enough: A guide to
Survival in Science”



Guest Speaker -2



Presentation from Barry
Thompson, Director
Tulane Career Center



Photo Speaks- 1st Retreat



Throughout the day
LASiGMA students
presented updates
respective to their
research area.



Information sharing at its best...

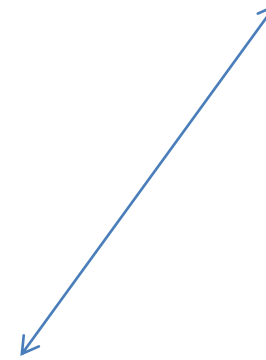
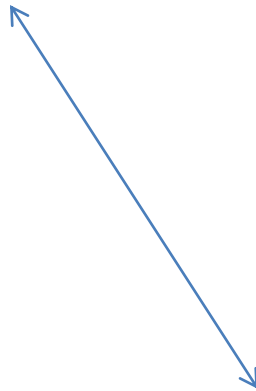
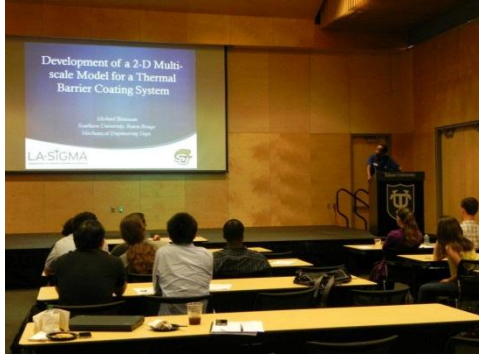
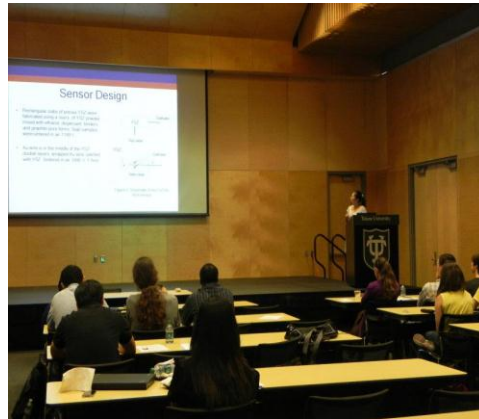


Photo Speaks- 2nd Retreat



Throughout the day LASiGMA students presented updates respective to their research area.



Attendance



1st Retreat

➤ LSU	14
➤ LA-Tech	9
➤ SUBR	7
➤ Grambling	0
➤ Tulane	0
➤ UNO	0
➤ Xavier	0

Total = 30

2nd Retreat

➤ LSU	10
➤ LA-Tech	9
➤ SUBR	7
➤ Grambling	0
➤ Tulane	5
➤ UNO	6
➤ Xavier	6

Total = 43



Major Accomplishments



- 1st and 2nd Annual LA-SiGMA Student Retreat.
- Students learned about what their peers are doing.
- Excellent networking opportunity.
- Students enjoyed guest speakers.
- Acquainted with projects from all science drivers.
- Practice presentation skills.



Need for Cont. Student Retreat



- Track progress of students' project.
- Critical for retention of students.
- Useful for tracking student's progress to degree completion.
- Coalescing of ideas on student level.



Retreat Reviews- 1st Retreat



LASiGMA Student Reviews	
Likes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demeanor of Student Presenters • Enjoyed guest speakers (were very encouraging) • Sharing ideas with peers/networking • Enjoyed short trivia and giveaways • Organization/Meeting flow • Quality of presentations • Informal atmosphere • Lead by students • Meeting Venue
Dislikes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long talks • Weekend meeting • Would like more information about planning of Retreat • Breaks were too short • Too many presentations • Presentations were not within scope of work • No representation from Tulane, UNO or Xavier
Recommendations for 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should meet more frequently • Include non-research activities • More time for group discussion • Short 7-8 minute individual presentations • Would like more motivational guests speakers (Post-docs and Faculty) • Meet during the weekday • Uploading presentations to website



Retreat Reviews- 2nd Retreat



- Enjoyed guest speakers.
- More organization as a group.
- Good presentation format.
- Should be meet more frequently.
- Location is good.



Next Steps



- Identify date for 3rd Annual Retreat.
- Identify funding (BoR?).
- Identify location (New Orleans has been agreed on).
- Increase from one day to two days.
- Increase guest speakers.



Special Thanks

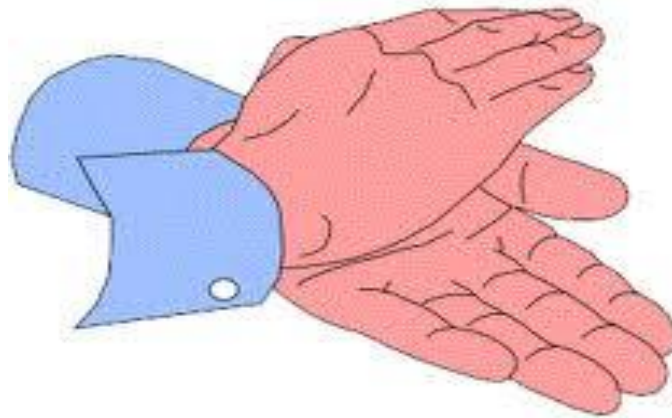


- BoR
 - Dr. Michael Khonsari
 - Dr. Mark Jarrell
 - Dr. Lawrence Pratt
 - Shelley Lee
 - Leigh Townsend
 - Our Guest Speakers





The End



Thank you for your attention

