

# NASA Science and Technology Institute for Minority Institutions (NSTI-MI)

## PERFORMANCE OUTCOMES DATA SUMMARY

*Narratives Only*

**FISCAL YEAR 2007**

**Compiled by**

**NASA Research & Education Support Services**

### **NSTI**

**United Negro College Fund Special Programs  
Corporation**

Fairfax, VA 22031

NSTI (NASA Science & Technology Institute)

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### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

The NASA Science and Technology Institute for Minority Institutions (NSTI), located within the NASA Research Park as part of the NASA Ames Research Center, brings together the talent and expertise of Minority Institutions (MIs) giving

minority researchers unparalleled access to NASA facilities, scientists, and capabilities. Students, faculty, researchers and teachers associated with NSTI tap into an established network of scientists and technologists from the R&D companies within the neighboring Silicon Valley area. NSTI activities strive to increase research opportunities in NASA-related research; stimulate cross-disciplinary research; improve the transfer of information, ideas and technology; foster R&D management strategies and expertise; and establish educational frameworks and networks that will continue to expand the nation's science and technology talent base.

The NASA Science and Technology Institute (NSTI) Summer Scholars Program, a component of the Institute, is a ten-week summer research experience for graduate and undergraduates in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) disciplines at the NASA Ames Research Center (ARC) in Moffett Field, California. In addition to conducting research with NASA scientists, scholars have an opportunity to participate in a variety of professional development

training sessions that include modules on:

- Leadership Development,
- Scientific Communication,
- Presentation Skills,
- Team Building,
- Interviewing Techniques,
- Resume Building and Networking Skills, and
- Responsible Research Ethics.

#### **PROGRAM RELEVANCE TO NASA**

N/A

#### **PROGRAM BENEFITS TO SOCIETY**

The NSTI provides opportunities for students and researchers from Minority Institutions to collaborate with the government, private sector, majority institutions, and other research and technical organizations

#### **PROGRAM GOALS**

The goals of this program align itself with NASA's Education Framework and specifically address the outcomes of all agency education activities.

- Outcome 1: Contribute to the development of the STEM workforce in disciplines needed to achieve NASA's strategic goals through a portfolio of investments.
- Outcome 2: Attract and retain students in STEM disciplines through a progression of educational opportunities for students, teachers, and faculty.
- Outcome 3: Build strategic partnerships and linkages between STEM formal and informal education providers that promote STEM literacy and awareness of NASA's mission.

#### **PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

In just the two short years since the program implementation, the NSTI Summer Scholars component has expanded its professional development and mentoring offerings for the students in an effort to better prepare them for a career in STEM disciplines.

#### **STUDENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

Thirty one students, from both majority and minority institutions nationwide, have completed the summer research experience in the past two years. In FY 07, two NSTI scholars were recognized by NASA Headquarters Office of Higher Education and invited to attend the launch of the STS-116 Discovery. One student from Cohort 1 returned to continue research that has led to the submission of a peer

reviewed publication. One NSTI scholar was awarded 2nd place in the Ames Higher Education Poster Symposium Session.

#### **PICTURES (3 images)**