



For Immediate Release

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### **Undergraduate Research Conference**

**Raleigh, NC-** Saint Augustine's College and the Virginia-North Carolina Alliance for Minority Participation (VA-NC AMP) will co-host the Undergraduate Research Conference, Monday, March 31, in the College's Seby Jones Fine Arts Center from 7:30 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. The conference, "A Partnership to Develop the Next Generation of Leaders in Teaching and Research," will enable students and faculty to showcase their efforts through the use of oral and poster presentations. Awards will be given to the most outstanding student presenters. The North Carolina Alliance to Create Opportunity (OPT-ED) at UNC-Chapel Hill and the Cooperating Raleigh Colleges (CRC) have pledged their support of this conference.

Dr. A. James Hicks, program director for the National Science Foundation's Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (LSAMP), will be the keynote speaker for the opening session at 9 a.m. Dr. Hicks is a well-known biologist who has received numerous awards including the 1988 White House Initiative's Faculty Award for Excellence in Science and Technology with a letter from President Ronald Reagan. In addition to his morning presentation, Dr. Hicks will conduct a faculty session on the best practices for integrating teaching and research.

Dr. William B. Harvey will be the keynote speaker for the luncheon, which will be held in the Martin Luther King Jr. Student Union at 12:15 p.m. Dr. Harvey is the vice president and chief officer for the Office of Diversity and Equity at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville, Virginia. He is also the principal investigator for the Virginia-North Carolina Alliance for Minority Participation. Dr. Harvey is a nationally known higher education expert on diversity in colleges and universities.

A *Graduate Fair* will be held from 1:30-3 p.m., representing colleges and universities in the VA-NC Alliance, other local colleges and Michigan State University. The Graduate Fair is open to the general public.

"Saint Augustine's College is initiating this conference to promote undergraduate research by providing a regional forum for students to present and receive recognition for their original research and creative endeavors conducted in partnership with faculty and internship mentors," said Dr. Kim Luckes, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs. "It also provides an opportunity for faculty to model and collaborate with students in research presentation techniques."

For further information, contact either Dr. Gloria E. Payne at [gpayne@st-aug.edu](mailto:gpayne@st-aug.edu) or Dr. Sevealyn Smith at [ssmith@st-aug.edu](mailto:ssmith@st-aug.edu).

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