



## SACNAS Overview

### *Society for Advancement of Hispanics/Chicanos & Native Americans in Science*

SACNAS is a society of scientists dedicated to fostering the success of Hispanic/Chicano & Native American scientists, from college students to professionals, to attain advanced degrees, careers, and positions of leadership.

## What is SACNAS?

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SACNAS serves over 25,000 members and allies at more than 1,000 institutions, agencies, and programs and has over 115 chapters nationwide. Our members are frequently called upon to provide high-level information, analysis, and advice on national science policy.

Our suite of innovative year-round programs and science policy initiatives are designed to develop scientists at the cutting edge of their fields, as well as community leaders who pave the way for the next generation.

### **Organizational Vision**

SACNAS' goals are to increase the:

- Number of Hispanics/Chicanos and Native Americans with advanced degrees in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) and the motivation to be leaders
- Number of Hispanics/Chicanos and Native Americans in science research, leadership and teaching careers at all levels
- Governmental commitment to advancing Hispanics/Chicanos and Native Americans in science, resulting in increased resources, elimination of barriers, and greater equity.

### **Achieving Mission Impact**

SACNAS achieves mission impact through outcome-based programming and initiatives, including:

- Annual national conference (attracting over 3,800 participants) & regional meetings
- Student & professional chapters at over 105 colleges, universities, and institutions in the U.S. and Puerto Rico
- Summer Leadership Institute for early and mid-career scientists
- Native American student engagement and mentoring program
- Robust website with numerous web-based services including connections to research and employment opportunities and professional development resources

## **Core Values**

SACNAS is inclusive of ethnicities, cultures and scientific disciplines; is committed to standards of excellence in science and education; and is devoted to full engagement of its members in the organization's work.

In addition to demanding excellence in science, a major SACNAS core value is the recognition that, for underrepresented minorities to succeed in science, both culture and community are key. SACNAS' leaders, members, supporters and friends champion the notion that one need not give up one's culture and community in order to be a successful scientist.

## **Why SACNAS?**

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### **Changing Demographics**

SACNAS uniquely represents the fastest-growing demographic, Hispanics, and the most-underserved population, Native Americans, in the country, also at the same time the most underrepresented in science.

### **STEM: A National Imperative**

Progressively over the last several decades, the United States has fallen further and further behind in educating its people in the STEM fields and our nation has become increasingly dependent on foreign scientists. As a result, we have not kept pace with the rest of the world in STEM. At a time when the U.S. populations of color are increasing, and this nation's scientific workforce is lagging, SACNAS believes that the U.S. must diversify its scientific workforce in order to increase it. Thus, SACNAS' work is timely and critical.

## **Major STEM Diversity Event Comes to Los Angeles**

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The 2014 SACNAS National Conference will be held at the Los Angeles Convention Center from October 16 – 18, 2014. The theme is: "Creativity, Vision, & Drive: Toward Full Representation in STEM."

### **2014 SACNAS**

The largest STEM diversity event in the country, the SACNAS National Conference brings together over 3,800 students and science professionals of color and their allies for a weekend of cutting-edge science, mentoring, networking, and professional development. A unique blend of science, culture, and community, the SACNAS National Conference is interdisciplinary, highly interactive, and transformative. Ultimately, the event motivates, inspires, and engages participants to achieve their highest goals in pursuing education and careers in STEM fields.

The 2014 SACNAS National Conference offers over 100 scientific symposia, professional development, and leadership development sessions. Nearly 1,000 undergraduate and graduate students present their scientific research, and over 600 professionals from the nation's top institutions come to recruit SACNAS attendees for graduate school, internships, fellowships, and career positions.

There are 10 distinguished keynote speakers and panelists slated including University of California President, Janet Napolitano; well-known seismologist Dr. Lucy Jones; and astrobiologist Dr. Jack Farmer.

### **Los Angeles Offers Rich Opportunity to SACNAS Community**

As one of the nation's most ethnically diverse cities in addition to boasting the largest number of STEM jobs in the country and some of the world's most prestigious research institutions, Los Angeles embodies the SACNAS spirit of diversity, innovation, and scientific excellence. Moreover, over ¼ of our attendees are from California with a majority of that number from southern California.

### **Our 2014 Conference Sponsors**

Elite sponsors: Platinum: University of Southern California; University of California, Los Angeles; Silver: University of California, San Diego; Bronze: University of Texas at Austin, and combined Texas A&M University, College Station and Texas A&M University Corpus-Christi.

### **Close Ties with Sponsoring Institutions**

SACNAS has many close ties with each sponsoring institution, including SACNAS chapters on many of the campuses and SACNISTAS among their faculty, staff, and administration. Not only do elite sponsors provide financial support to the 2014 conference, they also provide an essential connection to the local community, innovative ideas for programs and events, and creative and enthusiastic energy in planning and executing the conference.

## **Learn More**

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Visit our website: <http://sacnas.org/>

Visit our Press Room: <http://sacnas.org/about/press>

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