

The Officers (President Octavia Peck, Vice- President Shantae James, Secretary/ Treasurer Nicole Redmond) of the 2001-2002 Multicultural Graduate Student Association would like to report the following:

2001-2002 Accomplishments and Activities:

Organizational:

- November 16, 2002: Co-hosted, with MSAB (Multicultural Student Association Board), a Meet and Greet Happy Hour for professors and students at MUSC at Mitchell's in the Rhino Room. *Mention number of students/faculty/others attended if available.*
- November 17, 2001: Octavia Peck and Zara Sadler represented MGSA in the Hands on Collaboration with Health Professionals.
- March 2002: The Graduate Council unanimously named MGSA a non-voting member
- May 13, 2002: MGSA in conjunction with MSAB co-hosted a Recognition Reception for all MUSC minority graduates at the Sebring-Aimar House on Calhoun Street.

Individual Members:

- February 14 , 2002: Shantae James and Octavia Peck participated in the Science Career Day at Haut Gap Middle School in conjunction with the Office of Diversity.
- March 15-19, 2002: Shantae James and Octavia Peck were both named national abstract competition winners by the Minority Trainee Research Forum held at the Westgate Hotel in San Diego, California. They presented their research both in poster sessions and oral presentations.
- March 27-31, 2002: Wakesha Evans and Octavia Peck presented their research at 14th Annual National Black Graduate Student Conference held Howard University in Washington, DC from. Ms. Peck received 1st place in the poster session competition.
- May 2002: Shantae James received the UNCF-Merck Pre-Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship Award.
- May 2002: Zara Sadler was named the first College of Graduate Studies Service and Leadership Graduate Award recipient.
- June 18, 2002: Wakesha Evans participated in the PRISM (pursuing rewards in science and mathematics) Program at Claflin College in Orangeburg, South Carolina.

2002-2003 Goals

- Submit a budget proposal to a) acquire \$4,108 to aid in conference travels, speakers, and administrative costs, and b) allow 3 members to attend and present their research at the 15th Annual National Black Graduate Student Conference.
- With the assistance of Assistant Dean Dr. Lana Cook and Mrs. Hester Young, submit a proposal for the NIH-Initiative for Minority Student Development (IMSD) which will provide financial support to recruit and retain minority graduate students at MUSC.
- Seek affiliation with the National Black Graduate Student Association (NBGSA).
- Submit a request to the Dean's Office asking support for a proposal to host the National Black Graduate Student Association 16th Annual Conference.
- Continue to interact with students in the undergraduate summer programs held at MUSC.
- Organize and participate in Charleston County District High School Sunday tutoring sessions.
- Participate in at least one MUSC Gives Back function with the guidance of Liz Sheridan.
- Sponsor a Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration and a Black History Program in cooperation with the Office of Diversity and the Multicultural Student Advisory Board.
- Actively encourage students and faculty from area colleges and universities (with emphasis on Historically Black Colleges and Universities—HBCUs), to attend the 2003 Ernest Just Symposium. Additionally, a GRE testing skills / getting a Ph.D. Question and Answer Workshop is planned during this symposium as well
- Encourage members submit abstracts to the Minority Trainee Research Forum.
- Sponsor a Minority Alumni Chat session each semester in collaboration with Betsy Waters in Alumni Affairs.