FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Sponsored by the National Institute of General Medical Sciences

Division of Minority Opportunities in Research

ASM Receives Continued Support for the Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students

Washington, DC (May 12, 2011) — The American Society for Microbiology (ASM) is pleased to announce renewed National Institutes of Health support to manage the Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students (ABRCMS) through 2015!

About ABRCMS

ABRCMS is the premier conference where undergraduate students from across the country demonstrate their scientific knowledge and participate in numerous scientific and professional development sessions. The conference is a key stepping stone for enhancing the scientific and professional development of young scientists. Support from the National Institutes of Health validates ASM's efforts to (i) encourage the pursuit of advanced training in the sciences by underrepresented minority students and (ii) provide faculty advisors and mentors with resources for facilitating student success. In addition, the support paves the way to increased diversity among the U.S. research enterprise. Specifically, the renewal supports students to interact with and be mentored by scientists at the forefront of research, develop skills to conduct cutting edge, interdisciplinary research, and be recognized for their studies and research.

The 2011 ABRCMS, which is scheduled for 9-12 November in St. Louis, Mo., features a strong lineup of information-rich workshops, scientific presentations, and professional development opportunities. This year's notable speakers include **Alejandro Sanchez Alvarado**, HHMI Investigator at the University of Utah; **Sylvester James Gates, Jr.**, member, President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology; **Susan Lindquist**, HHMI Investigator at the Whitehead Institute; **Julianne Malveaux**, Bennett College President; and **Cora Marrett**, National Science Foundation Deputy Director for Education and Human Resources. Additional ABRCMS dates and locations are November 7-10, 2012, in San Jose, California; November 13-16, 2013, in Nashville, Tennessee; November 12-15, 2014, in San Antonio, Texas; and November 11-14, 2015, in Seattle, Washington. Learn more at www.abrcms.org.

About ABRCMS Leadership

Renewed funding could not be possible with out the superb leadership and guidance of the ABRCMS Steering Committee, whose members are chosen with the goal of bringing a broad range of backgrounds and careers to the event. ABRCMS Steering committee members are leaders in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) research, teaching, and mentoring. They include **Drs. Clifford W. Houston** (chair), University of Texas Medical Branch; **Alejandro Sanchez Alvarado**, University of Utah; **Cherrie B. Boyer**, University of California, San Francisco; **Robert Full**, University of California at Berkeley; **Marie-Alda Gilles-Gonzalez**, University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center; **Jerainne Johnson-Heywood**, National Institute of Standards and Technology; **Mary Sanchez Lanier**, Washington State University; **Juanita Merchant**, University of Michigan Medical School; and **Elba Serrano**, New Mexico State University.

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