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In 1999 a Life Sciences Minority Graduate Committee, consisting of representatives from each of the biological sciences graduate programs, was formed to increase the number of minority students enrolled in their doctoral programs. The Graduate School biological science programs are: [Integrated Graduate Program in the Life Sciences \(IGP\)](#); [Interdepartmental Biological Sciences Program \(IBiS\)](#); [Northwestern University Institute for Neuroscience \(NUIN\) Graduate Program](#), [Medical Scientist Training Program \(MSTP - the combined MD/PhD program\)](#); and [Biomedical Engineering \(BME\)](#). Professor Margarita L. Dubocovich chairs the committee. The committee includes life sciences graduate minority students, faculty and administrators. Contacts are listed below.

Under the aegis of the Life Sciences Minority Graduate Committee, three efforts have been implemented to establish linkages with minority-serving institutions that award substantial numbers of bachelor's degrees in the biological sciences:

- Expansion of the Summer Research Opportunity Program (SROP) with the addition of students in the biological sciences
- Campus visits by Northwestern life sciences faculty targeting students in the biological sciences: This effort has involved faculty visits to the following institutions: [Howard University*](#), [University of Texas at San Antonio*](#), [University of Illinois at Chicago](#), [Chicago State University](#), [Xavier University in Louisiana*](#), [Morehouse College](#), [Alcorn State University](#). (*These schools were listed in the July 1998 *Black Issues in Higher Education* as the top producers of African American and Hispanic baccalaureate degrees in the life sciences.)
- Development of a common application for all the Northwestern life sciences summer programs to assist the recruiting of biology students.

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