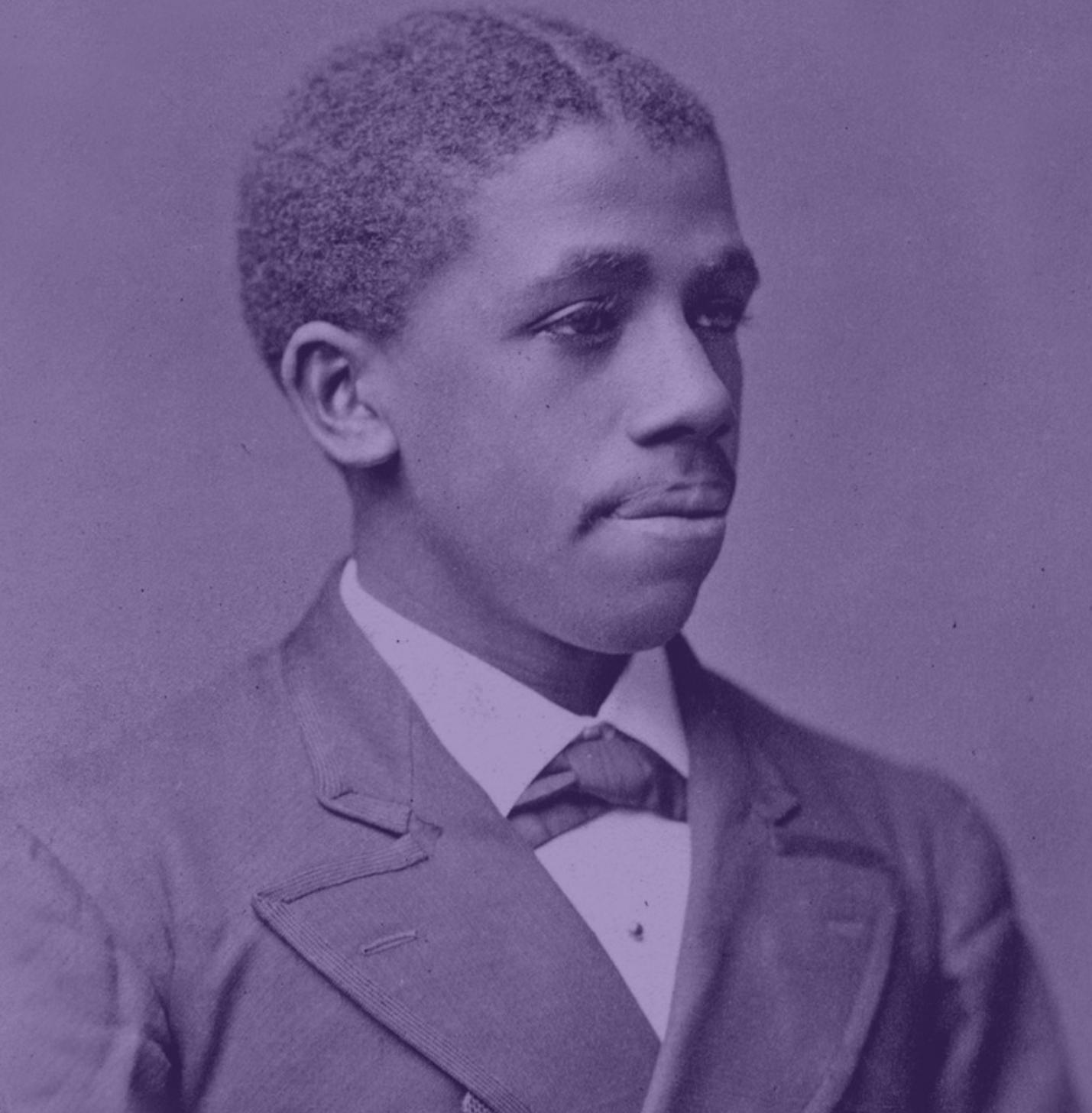


Edward Bouchet Graduate Honor Society Induction

September 29, 2020, 4:00 PM





About the **Bouchet Society**

Mission Statement

The purpose of the Bouchet Graduate Honor Society is to recognize outstanding scholarly achievement and promote diversity and excellence in doctoral education and the professoriate. The Bouchet Society seeks to develop a network of scholars who exemplify academic and personal excellence, and serve as examples of scholarship, leadership, character, service, and advocacy for students who have been traditionally underrepresented in the academy. In the spirit of Edward Alexander Bouchet and the scholarship, leadership, character, service, and advocacy he exhibited, inductees into the Bouchet Society must exhibit these same outstanding qualities. The U-M Bouchet Society is committed to intellectual excellence and interdisciplinary work, with the additional goal of using this knowledge in the service of society.

Scholarship

The Bouchet Society is an academic honor society that is committed to the goals of lifelong education, as well as the production and the dissemination of knowledge in the humanities, social sciences, and sciences. Members of the Society are committed to contributing to the development of their field(s) of study and to the application of knowledge into action that improves the lives and conditions of their communities.

Character

Bouchet Society members exhibit the highest values of their university, through their integrity, honor, and exemplary conduct and behavior. Character may be exemplified through an individual's emotional courage, principles, endurance, and perseverance. He or she must be reliable and consistent. At each member's core must be an awareness of the importance of contributing and working for the good of society.

Leadership

The Bouchet Society members take their responsibility for their departments and their academic fields of study seriously. Bouchet Society scholars are the embodiment of the ideals of their respective universities. They not only represent the mission of their university, but they also demonstrate strong initiative. U-M Bouchet Scholars play a leadership role in extending access to the university to a wider community by creating and sharing knowledge.

Service

Each member is expected to actively contribute to the well-being of society by giving, remaining involved, sharing personal gifts and talents, and exhibiting a Bouchet-like commitment to the service of others. Examples of service might include participating in an educational program for youth, serving in local or state politics, or volunteering with a local non-profit organization.

Advocacy

Each member should advocate for broader access to graduate education and other resources within the academy. Activities might include advocating for the concerns of diverse faculty members and students, serving as a mentor, helping to address the needs of communities, and educating others on the issues that may be at the heart of the continued inequities and disparities in our society, particularly in education.



Biography of Edward A. Bouchet

The society was established with the commitment by Yale University and Howard University to recognize the life and academic contributions of Edward Alexander Bouchet. Bouchet was the first African American to earn a doctoral degree from an American university; he earned his doctorate in Physics from Yale University in 1876.

Edward Bouchet was born in New Haven, Connecticut on September 15, 1852. He was the son of William Frances and Susan (Cooley) Bouchet. William Bouchet migrated to New Haven from South Charleston, South Carolina in 1824 as the valet of the father of Judge A. Heaton Robinson of New Haven. The senior Bouchet was said to have been prominent in New Haven's black community, serving as deacon of the Temple Street Church, the oldest black church in the city. Edward Bouchet attended the New Haven High School (1866 to 1868) and graduated from Hopkins Grammar School (1870) as valedictorian of his class.

Bouchet entered Yale College in 1870 and was the first African American to graduate Yale College in 1874. On the basis of his academic record he was elected to the Phi Beta Kappa Society.

Although Bouchet was elected to Phi Beta Kappa along with other members of the Yale class of 1874, the election did not take place until 1884, when the Yale chapter was reorganized after thirteen years of inactivity. Because of the circumstances, Bouchet was not the first African American elected to Phi Beta Kappa as many historical accounts state, that honor belongs to George Washington Henderson (University of Vermont) who was elected in 1877.

Bouchet continued the study of physics as a graduate student at Yale, where he was awarded a Ph.D. in Physics in 1876. Bouchet was the first African American to earn a doctoral degree from an American university.

Upon graduation from Yale, Dr. Bouchet taught chemistry and physics for twenty-six years at the Institute for Colored Youth in Philadelphia, PA. The Institute was a Quaker institution that had earned a reputation for high academic standards since its founding in 1837. Dr. Bouchet resigned in 1902 when the Institute's college preparatory program was discontinued "at the height of the DuBois-Washington controversy over industrial vs. collegiate education." The school moved to Cheney, PA as a vocational and teacher-training school; the name was changed in later years to Cheney State College. From 1902 to 1903, Bouchet served as a science teacher at Sumner High School in St. Louis, Missouri in their college preparatory program. From 1903 to 1904 he served as business manager of the Provident Hospital, St. Louis and U.S. Inspector of Customs at the Louisiana Purchase Expedition (1904 to 1905).

Between 1905 and 1908, Bouchet was director of academics at St. Paul's Normal and Industrial School in Lawrenceville, Virginia (later renamed, St. Paul's College). In 1908 he was appointed principal of the Lincoln High School, Galipolis, Ohio, until 1913, when he joined the faculty of Bishop College in Marshall, Texas. Dr. Bouchet retired from college teaching in 1916 due to illness, when he returned to New Haven.



Schedule of Events

4:00 - 4:15 PM

Welcome

Damon L. Williams, Jr.

Assistant Dean of Diversity and Inclusion
The Graduate School

Kelly E. Mayo

Interim Dean of The Graduate School
and Interim Associate Provost of
Graduate Education

4:15 - 4:20 PM

Acknowledgments

Rashaad Barnett

Program Coordinator
The Graduate School

4:20 - 4:25 PM

Introduction of Inductees

Erica Knight

Senior Program Coordinator
The Graduate School

4:25- 4:55 PM

Inductee Presentations and Questions

Ariel Dotts

PhD Candidate
Driskill Graduate Program in Life Sciences (DGP)

Maxwell Edmonds

MD/PhD Candidate
Medical Scientist Training Program (MSTP)

Jabari Evans

PhD Candidate
Media, Technology, and Society

Nicolas Watkins

PhD Candidate
Chemistry

Antoineen White

PhD Candidate
Interdisciplinary Biological Sciences (IBiS)

4:55- 5:00 PM

Closing Remarks

Damon L. Williams, Jr.

Assistant Dean of Diversity and Inclusion
The Graduate School

Meet the Inductees



Ariel Dotts

PhD Candidate in the Driskill Graduate Program in Life Sciences (DGP)

Faculty Nominator: Dr. Serdar Bulun

Ariel Dotts is a PhD candidate in the Driskill Graduate Program in Life Sciences (DGP). She has always been interested in the pathology and genetics of female reproductive diseases and disorders. Reproductive diseases, such as ovarian cancer, breast cancer, and uterine cancer, have affected members of her family, including her mother and maternal grandmother. Due to the direct impact on her immediate family, she knew that she wanted to study the anatomy of the female reproductive system, determine better ways of disease prevention, and uncover better therapeutic targets for female reproductive diseases. During her rotation in the Bulun lab Ariel was able to optimize a chromatin immunoprecipitation protocol using human uterine fibroid tissue. The protocol is now used for her current project, and other projects, in the lab. Upon joining the Bulun lab, Ariel's research has focused on the mechanism underlying labor initiation in the myometrium. As a women's health researcher, she is fully certified by the Institutional Review Board to work with human subjects for research. The Bulun lab has obtained human myometrium samples from the Prentice Women's Hospital at Northwestern Memorial. Many graduate students do not receive the opportunity to have direct contact with patients, and Ariel finds this interaction an honor as well as rewarding for it serves as a reminder about the positive impact of her research. Ariel's career goal is to be an independent research scientist who encourages and equips minority students with the skills required to be a successful scientists in the biomedical sciences.



Maxwell Edmonds

MD/PhD Candidate in the Medical Scientist Training Program (MSTP)

Faculty Nominator: Dr. Teresa K. Woodruff

Maxwell Edmonds is a MD/PhD Candidate in the Medical Scientist Training Program (MSTP) at the Feinberg School of Medicine at Northwestern University. Originally from Rhode Island, Max earned bachelor degrees in biology and French at the University of Rhode Island before beginning the MSTP. At Northwestern, Maxwell has engaged in PhD studies under the advising of Dr. Teresa K. Woodruff within the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology. Maxwell's thesis dissertation focuses on creating novel bioengineering solutions and technologies for studying the male reproductive system and developing new solutions for combating infertility and endocrine dysfunction in young men and boys diagnosed with cancer. This has led Max to explore opportunities for innovation between the fields of bioengineering and reproductive endocrinology. Specifically, he has used microfluidic culture systems to sustain and mature testicular tissue ex vivo, and has pioneered engineering methods to produce in vitro "testicular organoids," a bioengineered micro-tissue model for translational research. Maxwell was awarded a predoctoral fellowship through the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to fund his studies. He has also presented and received awards at regional and international professional societies, including the Endocrine Society, the Society for the Study of Reproduction, the American Society of Andrology, the Illinois Symposium for Reproductive Science, and the Oncofertility Consortium. Outside of the laboratory, Max is a past-president and active member of the MSTP student council and the MSTP admissions board, and editor-in-chief of Reprotopia.com, an online reproductive lexicon. One of Max's greatest joys is sharing science and medicine with inner city youth in Chicago, which he has done as the leader of multiple after-school programs for high school students. Maxwell will be completing his medical doctorate over the next two years, after which he plans to enroll in postgraduate clinical residency training. His long-term aspirations are to work as a physician-scientist in the academy.

Meet the Inductees



Jabari Evans

PhD Candidate in Media, Technology, and Society

Faculty Nominator: Dr. Aymar Jean

Jabari Evans is a PhD candidate in media, technology, and society in the School of Communication and a research fellow at the Northwestern Center of Media and Human Development. His research focuses on the subcultures that urban youth and young adults of color develop and inhabit to understand their social environments, emotional development and professional aspirations. He explores strategies these youth use for self-expression especially regarding digital media. His most recent work is examining the cultural production and social media habits of youth musicians in the DIY hip hop micro-scene of Chicago. His forthcoming dissertation project, which centers on a hip hop education program he helped design in Chicago Public Schools, has been recognized for awards by the International Communication Association and has been covered by the *Chicago Reader*, *Chicago Tribune*, *Rolling Out Magazine*, *Ebony Magazine*, and *Chicago Crain's Business*. He is also a 2019 selection for Microsoft Research New England's Social Media Collective PhD Internship. Jabari is executive of the Brainiac Project, an organization whose mission is to promote recording arts careers to at-risk youth and young adults via workshops, mentorship opportunities, educational support, and providing access to recording studio experience.



Nicolas Watkins

PhD Candidate in Chemistry

Faculty Nominator: Dr. Richard Schaller

Nicolas is a PhD candidate in chemistry working under Professor Richard Schaller. He graduated with his BS in chemistry with highest honors from Georgia Tech, where he studied the efficacy of magnetic nanoparticles as potential MRI contrast agents. His current research pertains to synthesizing 2D semiconductor nanoparticles with unique optical phenomena unseen in 0D and 1D structures. Understanding the relationship between function and structure in these materials has led to the recent realization of state-of-the-art displays for commercial electronics. His work aims to assess how the optical properties of these materials is modified under (high power illumination and extreme temperatures, thereby laying the foundational knowledge for further device applications like next generation lasers. Since arriving to Northwestern, he has published his first co-author papers in top tier chemistry journals. Nic has been recognized as a National Science Foundation (NSF) Graduate Research Fellow and received the Northwestern Hierarchical Materials Cluster Fellowship for his multidisciplinary work as a co-advised student. Nic is dedicated to inspiring future scientists and is an active ally for LGBTQIA+ identifying individuals. In 2019, Nic founded Graduate out in Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics (GoSTEM), a nationally recognized organization created to foster academic and professional development for LGBTQIA+ and non-binary graduate students in STEM at Northwestern. He is now the acting president of GoSTEM and is an active leader in NUBonD (Northwestern Building on Diversity), an organization founded by graduate students to foster diversity and inclusion within the chemistry community.

Meet the Inductees



Antoineen White

PhD Candidate in Interdisciplinary Biological Sciences (IBiS)

Faculty Nominator: Dr. Laura Lackner

Antoineen White is a PhD candidate in the Interdisciplinary Biological Sciences (IBiS) graduate program. In 2013, she received her BA with honors in biology from Amherst College. Prior to attending Northwestern, she conducted research at Michigan State University studying the assembly of electron transport chain complexes and contributed to a publication in the *Journal of Biological Chemistry*. Antoineen's current research investigates how organelle positioning within cells impacts organelle function and cellular fitness. She received a travel grant to present her work at the 2019 American Society for Cell Biology (ASCB) conference and placed second in the ASCB Minority Affairs Committee poster competition. Antoineen is also an author on a review exploring the many functions of contact between organelles submitted to the *Journal of Current Opinions in Cell Biology*.

Beyond the lab, Antoineen is passionate about enhancing the doctoral experiences of students from diverse backgrounds. These endeavors include serving on the organizing committee for the 2016 Black Graduate Student Association (BGSA) research conference, which seeks to bring minority graduate students together to share their personal and research related experiences. She believes mentorship is critical to developing diversity; therefore, has been a mentor to undergraduate researchers, mentored incoming students through the IBiS Peer Mentoring program, and has spoken to younger students about the graduate student experience on multiple panels. Recently, Antoineen co-founded and is now the chair of the Diversity in Biological Sciences (DiBS) council, which seeks to foster a support system and advocate for graduate students from diverse backgrounds.



Meet the **Past Inductees**

2019 Inductees

Julissa Muñiz

PhD Candidate, Learning Sciences

Ivan Hernandez

PhD Candidate, Social Psychology

Schnaude Dorizan

PhD Candidate, Neuroscience

Liliana M. Hernandez Gonzalez

PhD Candidate, Civil & Environmental Engineering

Julian Glover

PhD Candidate, African American Studies

2018 Inductees

Alicia McGeachy, PhD '18

Chemistry

Nisan Hubbard, PhD '18

Interdisciplinary Biological Sciences

Krystal Villanosa, PhD '18

Learning Sciences

Flex Nunez, PhD '15

Postdoctoral Trainee, Thoracic Surgery Division of Pulmonary
and Critical Care Medicine

Meet the **Selection Committee**



Stephanie Brehm, PhD

Assistant Director for Academic
and Strategic Initiatives
The Graduate School



Lauren-Ashley Buchanan, PhD

Associate Director, Student Life
The Graduate School



Louie Lainez

Manager, Diversity and Inclusion
Office of Institutional Diversity and
Inclusion



Lindsey Martin, PhD

Assistant Director
Medical Scientist Training Program (MSTP)



Felix Nunez, PhD

SRP Co-Director
Postdoctoral Trainee



Veronica Womack, PhD

Project Manager
Searle Center for Advancing Learning and
Teaching



