Dear STEM Scholar:

Recently the University at Albany applied for the SUNY Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (LSAMP) Bridge to Doctorate (BD) Fellow program. Pending NSF funding, our BD is slated to begin in August 2013. I would like to encourage you to apply for this prestigious program and below I have identified BD’s goals, eligibility criteria, and benefits of being selected as a BD Fellow.

**Goals:**
Consistent with its title, this program establishes a bridge to help talented students, like you, to obtain a Ph.D. by providing access to key resources for academic success. These program resources include providing financial support to pursue graduate study, assigning faculty mentors to guide students academically and professionally, and surrounding BD students with a support network of staff to assist them in accomplishing their goals.

The successful applicant will plan to pursue the Ph.D. degree in a science, technology, engineering, or mathematics (STEM) discipline. Applicants to the program are evaluated on the basis of their record of achievement, research experiences, as well as their motivation and connection to their field of study.

**Eligibility Criteria:**
- Participated in an LSAMP Program
- Bachelor’s degree in a STEM discipline with a 3.0 GPA or better
- U.S. Citizen or Permanent Resident
- Accepted into a STEM graduate program at the University at Albany
- Want to pursue a Ph.D. in a STEM discipline

**The benefits of becoming a SUNY LSAMP BD Fellow include the following:**
- Tuition and student health insurance
- Student stipend of $30,000 annually
- Faculty mentoring
- Participation in professional conferences and meetings
- Links to research and professional opportunities
- Enriched academic services and support

I’d welcomed your application for the University at Albany SUNY LSAMP BD fellowship and have attached the BD application. If you have any questions, I may be reached at (518) 442-3899 or by email at: bshadrick@albany.edu.

Sincerely,

*Betty P. Shadrick*

Betty P. Shadrick, Ph.D
Assistant Dean Graduate Studies
Director of Graduate Student Diversity