Two pronounced characteristics of Hispanic students is their lack of exposure to higher education (most are the first in their families to attend a university) and their very limited exposure to science. For instance, during their pre-college years only a few have the opportunity to visit research centers or even universities. Thus, with no easy connection to science or to the world of scientists, few students are inclined to pursue science as a career. Under these circumstances, attracting and retaining students in science becomes a multidimensional problem. First, recruitment has to involve educating middle and high school students —and their teachers— about the role of a scientist in today's world. Students and their parents must be made aware of the basics, such as the average salaries of scientists and job opportunities in industry, government, and the military. In addition, it is also necessary for students to develop basic math and science skills. This requires direct university faculty members' intervention in the educational system for grades 7 through 12 (some say K through 12). Once at the university, students must be nurtured and trained to do research; this requires the formation of a faculty network to support these activities.

In the years since we were undergraduates, research education has gone from being an elitist activity catering to a selected few, to one attending to the masses. Our mentoring techniques should evolve so we can produce the quality of scientists needed by today's complex society.

Professor Jorge A. López is Chair and Shumaker Professor in the Department of Physics at the University of Texas, El Paso. His current research efforts focus on nuclear theory. For further information, please see http://physics.utep.edu/LopezNYT/Jorge.html.
Miguel Rios completed his Ph.D. in Experimental Nuclear Physics at the University of Maryland launching a formidable career that spans science and business.

In the 1980’s, Rios left Sandia National Laboratories to start his own company ORION International Technologies, Inc. in Albuquerque, a defense contractor engaged in fundamental research; systems analysis, engineering, design, fabrication, test and evaluation and program planning and management. Recently, Dr. Rios was appointed as Chairman of the Board of the National Center for Genome Resources, NCGR, in Santa Fe, N.M., a nonprofit bioinformatics and computational biology center. Its key scientific direction includes development in systems biology and novel methods for integrating software applications and databases.

In May, Miguel Rios received the Distinguished Alumni Award from the Physics Department at the University of Maryland.

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**Summer Science Instructors**

The Johns Hopkins University/Center for Talented Youth encourages outstanding science teachers to apply to teach above grade level courses such as Fast-Paced H.S. Physics, Chemistry, and Biology, as well as Flight Science and various Engineering courses. CTY offers intensive 3-week summer residential academic programs to gifted and talented students in 5th-10th grades. Instructors are assigned a Teaching Assistant, 15-18 exceptional students, and a comfortable supplies budget. Dates for 2003 sessions are June 29-July 18, and July 20-August 8.

**Salary:** $1800 - $2800 per session plus room and board on a college campus

**More information:** Call (410) 516-0053 or visit [www.cty.jhu.edu](http://www.cty.jhu.edu) for more information and an application.

**Recruitment Opens:** January 29, 2003

**Recruitment Closes:** Until all positions have been filled

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**AAPT Scholarship for Future High-School Physics Teachers**

AAPT offers a $2,000 scholarship for future high-school physics teachers. This scholarship is available only to U.S. citizens attending a U.S. school. Undergraduate students in, or planning to enter physics teacher preparation curricula and high-school seniors planning to enter such curricula are eligible. The stipend of up to $2,000 is granted for four years. Applications will be accepted at any time online at: [www.aapt.org/pdfs/lotze.pdf](http://www.aapt.org/pdfs/lotze.pdf) or can request materials from: AAPT Programs Department, One Physics Ellipse, College Park, MD 20740-3845; 301-209-3344; aapt-prog@aapt.org.

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