This year, UW-Whitewater will have the pleasure of welcoming Dr. Bruce A. Jackson in conjunction with our Fall Undergraduate Research Day in September.

Dr. Jackson received his Bachelors of Science Degree in Biology from the University of Houston in 1975, his Masters of Science Degree in Cell and Molecular Biology from Brandeis University in 1983, and his Doctorate in Biochemistry from the University of Massachusetts Lowell in 1989. From 1990-1993 Dr. Jackson was the National Institutes of Health Post-Doctoral fellow at Boston University of Medicine, where he would go on to be appointed to the Research Faculty in 1993.

In 1993, Dr. Jackson was appointed as the coordinator of the Biotechnology Program at Massachusetts Bay Community College. Under his leadership, the program has become one of the most renowned and celebrated undergraduate science programs in the nation. This rigorous program is research-based and focuses on hands-on instruction and unique internship experiences. The program has since produced 20 Barry M. Goldwater Scholars, receivers of the nation’s highest and most prestigious undergraduate science scholarship. The program has also gained plenty of national media attention, including from such publications as The New York Times and the Chronicle of Higher Education. The program also boasts 100 percent job placement rates as well as having 50 percent of students pursue advanced science degrees. Dr. Jackson is currently the Chair of the Department of Biotechnology and Forensic DNA Science at MassBay.

Along with his work in Biotechnology, Dr. Jackson has also done much for the world of Forensic DNA science. He created the world’s first degree program in Forensic DNA science at MassBay. Dr. Jackson is the Principal Investigator of Biomedical Engineering and Technology at the University of Massachusetts, Lowell. There, he and his team use DNA to trace paternal and maternal lineages of African-American and American Jews. Dr. Jackson’s experience and education in Forensics have helped him to become a world-renowned forensic DNA scientist. He assists FBI and police departments with criminal and missing-persons cases as well as serving as a consultant for defense attorneys throughout the US.

Because of his many achievements, Dr. Jackson has been the recipient of multiple awards. In 1997 he was awarded the National Science Foundation CAREER AWARD at Boston University of Medicine. This is the National Science Foundation’s most prestigious awards in support of junior faculty who exemplify the role of teacher-scholars through integration of education and research within the context of the mission of their organizations. In 1999 Dr. Jackson also received the Frederick Douglas Isaacs Community Service Award for his creation of the Diving Buddies Program, a program which pairs at-risk kids with adults in the sport of Scuba diving. Dr. Jackson received the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics, and Engineering mentoring, which he received from President Obama in 2011. This award recognizes the important role that mentoring plays in the education and success of students. He has also received the 2015 CUR-Goldwater Scholars Faculty Mentor award. This award recognizes his work teaching and mentoring the 20 Goldwater Scholars from MassBay.

Dr. Jackson currently lives in Wayland, MA, with his two children, Corey Alexander and Leah Alexandra Jackson.
Agenda for Dr. Bruce Jackson’s visit to UW-Whitewater, September 21-23, 2015

Sunday September 20th

Arrival

Monday, SEPT 21st

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM: Meeting with administrators, campus leaders, and new students

Noon-1:00 PM: Lunch Meeting with Biology Faculty, presentation/discussion on how to increase the minority enrollment of baccalaureate STEM programs by combined research-based Bridge Programs/ATAs with community colleges (CC)

1:00 PM-2:30 PM: Open time for one-on-one meetings with students and faculty/staff (Undergraduate Research Program Office).

2:30PM -4:30PM: Meeting with Dr. Crossgrove and her genetics and molecular biology students, and Mr. Peter Killoran and his criminology students (Biology conference room)

5:00 PM-7:00 PM: “DNA Talk” (Timmerman Auditorium)

7:00 PM- 9:00 PM: Informal dinner and discussion with faculty

Tuesday, SEPT 22nd

9:00 AM. - 10:30 AM: Meeting with administrators and campus leaders

11:00 AM– 11:50 AM: Goldwater presentation to New Student Seminar students

12:00 noon – 1:00 PM: Lunch with representatives from Science Academy, WiscAMP, and representatives from other Inclusive Excellence Programs

1:00 PM– 3:30 PM: Open time for one-on-one meetings with students and faculty/staff (Undergraduate Research Program Office).

3:30PM– 6:00 PM: Informal meeting with King/Chavez scholars, McNair Scholars and members of Black Student Union (BSU)

6:00 PM– 9 PM: Informal dinner with King/Chavez scholars, McNair Scholars and members of Black Student Union (BSU), and other invited student organizations

Wednesday, SEPT 23rd

8:00 AM- 10:00 AM: Informal breakfast meeting with STEM faculty (Q&A)

10:00 AM – 12:00 Noon: Open time for one-on-one meetings with students and faculty/staff (Undergraduate Research Program Office).

12 noon – 2 PM: LEARN Center lunch discussion/presentation on the Biotechnology Programs at MassBay "The Power of Research Based Curriculums" for all faculty. (University Center, Room 275A)