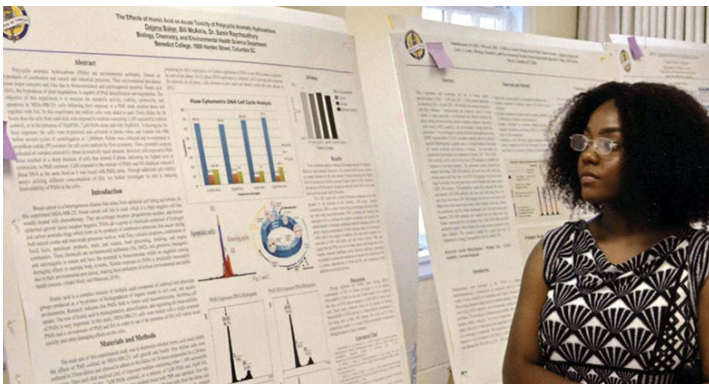
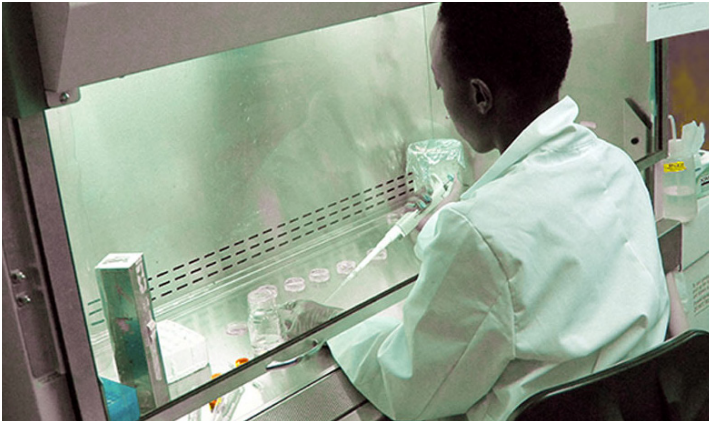


# REU PROGRAM FOCUS ON DR. SAMIR RAYCHOUDHURY



**Dr. Samir Raychoudhury**, Dean, School of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics at Benedict College was one of our recent REU recipients for his project, "The Effects of Humic Substances on Acute Toxicity of Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons."

"The students pictured in my lab are: Diana Odhiambo (top, left photo) who is culturing MCF-7 breast cancer cells under a tissue culture hood," said Raychoudhury. "She worked and presented

her research titled, *Galangin flavonoid suppresses Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs) induced apoptosis and downregulates expression of Aryl Hydrocarbon Receptor Repressor by Inhibiting Aryl Hydrocarbon Receptor activation in MCF7 Breast Cancer Cells.*

"Maryclair Keke, shown in right photo, is examining mitochondrial nitric oxide synthase (iNOS) in MCF-7 cells upon exposure to PAHs. Maryclair is getting ready to prepare samples for gel electrophoresis.

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"There was a third student in my lab, Dajana Baker (bottom, left photo) who presented a poster on *The Effects of Humic Acid on Acute Toxicity of Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons.*"

Raychoudhury also included the following:

Benedict College's School of STEM's Summer Undergraduate Research Institute (SURI) 2017 Research Symposium was held on Thursday, July 20 in Alumni Hall, beginning at 9 am and ending at 4 pm. SURI is an 8-week hands-on research program in which Benedict students work side-by-side in lab with their faculty mentors. Research topics this year included bridge structural analysis, air quality in high-traffic areas, therapeutic drug delivery methods, development of screening methods for environmental radiation, as well as many others in the fields of Physics, Electrical and Computer Engineering, Environmental Engineering and Science, Biology, Chemistry, and Mathematics.

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