

The background is a solid teal color. There are several decorative elements: a large, semi-transparent teal circle on the left side, a smaller semi-transparent teal circle in the upper right, and a solid red vertical rectangle in the top right corner. The text is centered and reads:

# UNO-AMRI High School Student Summer Program

UNIVERSITY OF NEW ORLEANS

ADVANCED MATERIALS RESEARCH INSTITUTE

# Brief History

- ▶ UNO-AMRI High School summer program was started in 2002 as part of a larger grant from the Board of Regents
- ▶ Since its inception, the program has impacted 139 students from the greater New Orleans area (average participation rate: 10 students/year)



**Edward Johnson** Summer 2012/3  
Working on new nanomaterials  
for photovoltaics

# Summer Research Experience

- ▶ Students carry out their own independent project over an 8 week period within an active research lab
- ▶ Students also attend weekly lectures on Materials Science as well as proper scientific conduct – lectures include discussions on nanomaterials, characterization, careers in Materials Science, ethics, safety, and proper record keeping
- ▶ Summer program culminates in a two-hour poster session where all the participants present their own posters on the work they completed in the program – final program is attended by faculty, staff, students, and outside visitors



**Tiffany Lu** Summer 2012 – Presenting final poster on new nanoscale magnetic materials she fabricated during the program

# Diversity

- ▶ The program has been extremely diverse, working to involve underrepresented groups from around the greater New Orleans area
- ▶ Over the lifetime of the program, the participants have been over 60% female and ~48% minority students (38% African American and 10% Hispanic)



High school participants  
from summer 2012



High school participants  
from summer 2013

# Productivity

- ▶ Students use results from summer program to participate in local science fairs
- ▶ Research efforts can also lead to presentations at regional, national or international professional meetings or even coauthorship on publications
- ▶ High school students have been coauthors on well over 30 presentations and publications
- ▶ Amy Olson (left) was especially productive being coauthor on 5 presentations and 1 paper



**Amy Olson** Summer 2012/13 –  
Solar degradation of crude oil  
from the BP spill

# Student Highlight

## Alisha Chowdhury

- ▶ Awarded 1st place in her school science fair based on the research from 2013 summer program
- ▶ Advanced to the UNO Greater New Orleans Science Fair, where she won 1st place in her division
- ▶ Also received two grand prize awards from MENSA and the American Aeronautics Association
- ▶ Currently a junior at University of Pennsylvania



Summer 2013

# Support

- ▶ Board of Regents no longer able to support the program
- ▶ Would like to continue program even if at a reduced student participation level
- ▶ High school student summer stipend currently \$2000
- ▶ Funds go to support students only. Faculty members use other funds to support research program and AMRI covers administration costs

# Contributors

- ▶ Contributors can sponsor one or more students or can contribute to a general fund that will be used to support student stipends
- ▶ Contributors are invited to the poster session at the end of the program as well as the closing barbeque festivities
- ▶ *Recognition* - Contributors will be recognized during the final summer event as well as on the AMRI website and in the AMRI newsletter. Further, contributors will have their names added to a plaque exhibited in AMRI's display case