The UT African American Male Research Initiative (AAMRI) is a faculty-led academic initiative rooted in evidence-based practices to promote academic excellence among African American males. AAMRI includes a research focus, too, that informs public policy experts, practitioners, and concerned citizens on how best to create and maintain a culture of Black male excellence in K-16 settings. This research guides our hands-on practical approach to help AAMRI achieve its major goals: to increase the four-year graduation rate for African American males at the University of Texas and to increase the number of Black males attending four-year colleges and universities across the state of Texas.

Housed in the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement, AAMRI partners with local and national organizations such as the Todd A. Bell National Resource Center for the African American Male at the Ohio State University, Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity, 100 Black Men, the African American Youth Harvest Foundation, the University of Texas Chapter of the Student African American Brotherhood (SAAB), and the men of the W.E.B. DuBois Honors Program at Huston-Tillotson University. Through these partnerships, AAMR provides professional development and special events for undergraduates and opportunities for the undergrads to mentor younger African American males. We hope you will join us in helping to advance educational opportunities that lead to academic success and a culture of excellence for African American males.

AAMRI: Black Male Excellence Redefined

Dr. Gregory J. Vincent
Vice President for Diversity and Community Engagement
W.K. Kellogg Professor in Community College Leadership
Professor of Law

AAMRI LEADERSHIP TEAM

DR. LEONARD N. MOORE, Associate Vice President for Academic Diversity Initiatives. Professor of History
Leonard N. Moore is currently the associate vice-president for academic diversity initiatives at the University of Texas and a full professor in the department of history. The Cleveland, Ohio, native earned his undergraduate degree from Jackson State University in 1993 and his Ph.D. from the Ohio State University in 1998. He teaches History of the Black Power Movement and Race in the Age of Obama, and he directs study abroad programs in Beijing and Cape Town. He is married with three children.

DR. LOUIS HARRISON, Professor, College of Education
Louis Harrison, Jr. is currently a full professor in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction at The University of Texas at Austin. A native of New Orleans, Dr. Harrison is the nation’s leading expert on racial identity and the African American athlete. He earned his undergraduate degree from the University of New Orleans and his Ph.D. from LSU in 1997. He has published widely and is in demand as a speaker, lecturer, and researcher. In addition to his responsibilities at UT, he also serves as pastor of Greater Bethany Baptist Church in Elgin, Texas. He is married with four children.

DR. DARREN KELLY, Assistant Director, AAMRI
Darren Kelly, a native of Orange County, California, earned a bachelor’s degree in finance and marketing from the University of Virginia. After graduating from UVA he spent several years working in corporate finance for GE, which included a special assignment in Shanghai, China. In 2012 he earned his Ph.D. from The University of Texas at Austin in sports management. Dr. Kelly also directs the Ronald E. McNair Scholars Program. He is married with one son.

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES
- Academic coaching and advising
- Free and unlimited tutoring
- Weekly empowerment meetings
- Monthly professional development workshops
- Undergraduate research lab on Black males
- Leadership Institute
- Internship program
- Student-athlete programming
- Study abroad (Beijing and Cape Town)
- College for a Day program
- Campus visitation hosting

Although AAMRI focuses on African American males, our services are open to anyone regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, or other personal identities.

For more information contact us at (512) 471-1205, or by email at aamri@austin.utexas.edu
ANTHONY HEAVEN, Detroit, Michigan
Anthony earned his undergraduate degree at Stillman College, where he also served as Student Government president. He is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in higher education administration. He is a member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc.

LANGSTON CLARK, Plainsboro, New Jersey
Langston earned his undergraduate degree at North Carolina A&T University and his master’s degree at the Ohio State University. He is currently completing his Ph.D. in curriculum and instruction. He is a former high school teacher.

DALLAWRENCE DEAN, Fort Collins, Colorado
Dallawrence is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in higher education leadership and also serves as a program coordinator with the UT Longhorn Link program. He earned his undergraduate degree at Colorado State University and his master’s degree at Michigan State University. He is a member of Alpha Phi Alpha.

ALVIN LOGAN, Denver, Colorado
Alvin earned his bachelor’s and master’s degrees at the University of Washington where he also played Linebacker on the Huskies football team. He is a member of Kappa Alpha Psi and he is pursuing a Ph.D. in curriculum and instruction.

CAMERON McCoy, Washington, D.C.
Cameron is a doctoral student in the Department of History. He earned his undergraduate degree at BYU and his master’s degree at Texas A&M. He is a major in the U.S. Marine Corps and has completed three tours of duty in Iraq. He is married with two children.

MARTIN SMITH, San Diego, California
Martin earned his bachelor’s and master’s degrees at the University of California-Berkeley, where he was also a member of the Cal basketball team. Before coming to UT, he taught at the community college level while also operating basketball camps for inner-city teenagers. He is a Ph.D. student in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction.

NEIL TANNER, Arlington, Texas
Neil is working on a master’s degree in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction. He earned his undergraduate degree from the McCombs School of Business at UT. While an undergraduate he served as president of both the Student African American Brotherhood (SAAB) and the UT chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi, Inc.

DEVIN WALKER, Los Angeles, California
Devin earned his undergraduate degree at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Upon graduation he worked as a college advisor with the Posse Foundation. He has extensive experience working and living abroad. He is working on a master’s degree in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction.

JOHN WILLIAMS, Dallas, Texas
John is a graduate of The University of Texas at Austin with a degree in early childhood development. He currently serves as the administrative associate for AAMRI and is the first point of contact when students come to the AAMRI office.

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