On September 7th, 2012, the Partnership for Undergraduate Life Sciences Education (PULSE) announced the selection of 40 Vision and Change Leadership Fellows. PULSE is a joint initiative of the National Science Foundation (NSF), Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI), and the National Institutes of Health/NIGMS (NIH/NIGMS). The 40 post-secondary life sciences faculty members were competitively selected from over 250 applicants for their experience in catalyzing reform in undergraduate biology education. Over the next year, these selected Leadership Fellows will work as a team to produce an implementation framework describing strategies for change within academic departments.

The Vision and Change Leadership Fellows are:

- Karen M. Aguirre, Associate Professor and Chair of Biology, Coastal Carolina University
- Taylor Allen, Associate Professor and Chair of Biology, Oberlin College
- Judy Awong-Taylor, Associate Dean and Professor of Biology, School of Science and Technology, Georgia Gwinnett College
- Teresa C. Balser, Dean, College of Agricultural and Life Sciences and Professor, Soil and Water Science, University of Florida
- Gita Banger, Assistant Dean of Science and Chair of Life Sciences, Bellevue College
- Edwin J. Barea-Rodriguez, Chair and Professor, Department of Biology, University of Texas at San Antonio
- Heather J. Belmont, Dean of the School of Science, Miami Dade College
- Loretta Brancaccio-Taras, Professor and Chairperson, Department of Biological Sciences, Kingsborough Community College (CUNY)
- Richard A. Cardullo, Professor of Biology, University of California-Riverside
- Jonathan R. Cumming, Professor of Biology, West Virginia University
- William B. Davis, Associate Dean for Undergraduate Education, College of Veterinary Medicine, Washington State University
- Betsy (Elizabeth) A. Desy, Professor of Biology, Chair of Science Department, Southwest Minnesota State University
- Alix D. Dowling Fink, Associate Professor of Biology & Dean of the Cormier Honors College, Longwood University
- Ellen S. Goldey, William R. Kenan Jr. Professor and Chair of Biology, Wofford College
- Richard J. Gonzalez, Professor of Biology, University of San Diego
- Sharon B. Gusky, Professor, Northwestern Connecticut Community College
- April L. Hill, Associate Professor of Biology, University of Richmond
- Thomas Jack, Professor of Biological Sciences, Dartmouth College
- Nitya P. Jacob, Associate Professor of Biology, Oxford College of Emory University
- Michael Ira Kelrick, Professor and Department Chair of Biology, Truman State University
- Karen K. Klyczek, Professor of Biology, University of Wisconsin-River Falls
- Melanie J. Lee-Brown, Associate Professor of Biology, Undergraduate Research Director, Guilford College
- David J. Marcey, Fletcher Jones Chair of Developmental Biology, California Lutheran University
- Kate Marley, Associate Professor of Biology and Chair of the Division of Science, Mathematics and Information Science and Technology, Doane College
- Jenny L. McFarland, Biology Instructor, Edmonds Community College
- Kathryn G. Miller, Professor and Chair of Biology, Washington University in St. Louis
- Marcy P. Osgood, Assistant Dean of Pre-Clinical Education, Division of Undergraduate Medical Education, University of New Mexico School of Medicine, and Undergraduate Program Director and Vice Chair for Education, Associate Professor; Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center
- Joann J. Otto, Professor and Chair of the Biology Department, Western Washington University
- Pamela A. Pape-Lindstrom, Biology Faculty and Chair, Everett Community College
• **Cynthia B. Peterson**, Kenneth and Blaire Mossman Professor of Biomedicine, Department of Biochemistry and Cellular and Molecular Biology, Interim Associate Dean of Academic Personnel, College of Arts and Sciences, University of Tennessee
• **Jo Anne Powell-Coffman**, Professor and Chair, Department of Genetics, Development, and Cell Biology, Iowa State University
• **Todd P. Primm**, Associate Professor, Department of Biological Sciences, Sam Houston State University
• **C. Gary Reiness**, Professor of Biology and Associate Dean for Faculty Development, Lewis & Clark College
• **Sandra L. Romano**, Interim Dean, College of Science and Mathematics, Associate Professor of Marine Biology, University of the Virgin Islands
• **Joel F. Schildbach**, Professor and Director of Undergraduate Studies, Department of Biology, Johns Hopkins University
• **Whitney M. Schlegel**, Associate Professor of Biology, Indiana University Bloomington
• **Gina M. Semprebon**, Professor of Biological and Forensic Sciences and Director of Center of Excellence for Women in Science, Bay Path College
• **Mary A. Smith**, Associate Professor and Chairperson, Department of Biology, North Carolina A & T State University
• **Akif Uzman**, Interim Dean, College of Sciences and Technology, Professor of Biology & Biochemistry, University of Houston, Downtown
• **Gabriele K. Wienhausen**, Associate Dean for Education, Division of Biological Sciences, University of California, San Diego

The Vision and Change Leadership Fellows come from 24 states and the U.S. Virgin Islands, and represent research universities, liberal arts colleges, comprehensive/regional universities, and two-year colleges.

“The fellows represent a diverse group of extremely capable faculty,” said Judith Verbeke of NSF. “They bring a variety of experiences that will inform the development of an implementation framework that will transform undergraduate education in the life sciences.”

“We are very excited about the work on which the fellows are about to embark,” said Clifton A. Poodry of NIH’s National Institute of General Medical Sciences. “The PULSE program will help move life sciences education forward.”

“The strong response we received to the call for applications reflects broad consensus in the community that change is needed,” said HHMI’s Cynthia Bauerle. The way biology is taught needs to change in order to spark student interest in science and prepare them to answer challenging 21st century problems. “The time is now,” said Bauerle.

The work of the Leadership Fellows will be available on the PULSE website where others may review it and provide comments through May 2013. The entire biology community is encouraged to enrich this framework via the PULSE online colleague community. To learn more about the initiative, interact with the Leadership Fellows team, and engage with the growing online PULSE community, go to [www.pulsecommunity.org](http://www.pulsecommunity.org).