BTI EDUCATION AND OUTREACH PROGRAMS EXTEND OPPORTUNITIES TO TRADITIONALLY UNDERSERVED STUDENTS.

Among recent REU grant program participants, 57 percent were from small colleges without extensive research programs, 37 percent were first-generation college students, and 39 percent were underrepresented students.

BTI INTERNSHIPS PREPARE STUDENTS FOR CAREERS IN STEM FIELDS.

Combined student surveys showed that 89 percent of the REU students had an increased interest in plant biology, and 93 percent had a moderate to great gain in their confidence to do research. Most interns, 92 percent, "agree" or "strongly agree" that the internship program helped to prepare them for graduate school, and 85 percent were more likely to attend graduate school due to their specific experiences at BTI. To date, nearly 80 percent of BTI undergraduate interns pursue advanced degrees in STEM fields.