Raquel Albarrán, Romance Languages: Passed quals last semester and, having submitted my dissertation proposal, I am officially ABD! I also presented a paper at a conference.

Kamila Alexander, Nursing: Finished her second year of graduate school, presented a poster and paper at a conference, also had a poster/paper accepted for presentation, and submitted a manuscript for publication! Kamila was also awarded a Training Fellowship grant through the National Institutes for Health and the Center for Health Equity in the School of Nursing.

GerShun Avilez, Ph.D., Postdoctoral Fellow, Frederick Douglass Institute for African & African-American Studies University of Rochester writes: I am just writing to update the Fontaine Society about the faculty position that I have accepted. As of July 1, 2010, I will be an Assistant Professor of English and African American Studies at Yale University.

Shane Allen, Neuroscience: I am a first-year neuroscience graduate student, and my news is that I recently learned that I was awarded the NSF predoctoral research fellowship. (On the family front) I have a 4-year-old and 2-year-old myself, so the excitement is still fresh in my mind, which I suppose goes without saying because it will probably always be!

S. Afua Appiah-Yeboah, Demography: Babies are such a blessing! I'm expecting my second in June. Wish me luck.

Rosemary Avance, Annenberg: Finished her second year of graduate school, presented a paper at a conference, and submitted and got a manuscript accepted for publication (http://moses.crreighton.edu/JRS/2010/2010). Rosemary is also pregnant with baby #2.

Bridgette Brawner, Nursing: Completed her PhD in Nursing in August 2009, presented a poster and paper at a conference, and successfully submitted a manuscript for publication. Bridgette is currently the University’s first “Distinguished Postdoctoral Fellow.” In this new and innovative fellowship, she’ll receive 2 years of postdoctoral training and mentorship to advance her science and scholarship around depression and HIV risk related sexual behaviors, after which she will immediately join the School of Nursing faculty in a full-time, Assistant Professor tenure-track position.

Chonika Coleman, Education: Recipient of the GSE 2010 William E. Arnold Award for Outstanding Contributions by a Doctoral Student.

Charlene Cruz Cerdas, Sociology: Finished her first year of graduate school!

Merlin Chowkwanyun, History: I was named a Dean's Scholar earlier in spring. I will be a Dissertation Fellow at the Miller Center for Public Affairs at UVA next year.
• **Maryann Erigha, Sociology:** Finished the third year of graduate school and completed coursework!

• **Jessica Ho, Demography:** Finished her first year of graduate school, presented a paper at a conference, had a poster/paper accepted for publication, and successfully submitted a manuscript for publication. Jessica also was awarded a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship and Penn Presidential Prize Fellowship!

• **Shawnika J. Hull,** ABD, Communication: This fall I will begin a post-doctoral fellowship at the University of Wisconsin - Madison. I will be the Anna Julia Cooper Fellow for 2010-2011 followed by a position as a tenure track assistant professor at the School of Journalism and Mass Communication (also UW Madison).

• **Robert E. Lane, Ph.D.** has returned to his alma mater as Penn’s Director of the McNair Scholar Program!

• **Valerie Lundy-Wagner, Ph.D.:** After graduating in May, in September 2010 I’ll be a post-doctoral fellow at New York University in their Postdoctoral and Transition Program for Faculty Diversity (which I learned about through another Fontaine – Rachelle Brunn!). I’ll work in the Steinhardt School for Culture, Education, and Human Development, in the Higher & Postsecondary Education Program for two years. I also presented a paper and a poster at conferences this year, and had a first authored article accepted in a top-tier academic journal!

• **Cecily Mitchell, School of Social Policy & Practice:** Finished the first year of graduate school!

• **Susana Ramírez, Ph.D., Communication:** News: successfully defended dissertation...so soon to be a Fontaine alumna!  
- gave birth to a beautiful baby boy August 1, 2009  
- appointed a National Cancer Institute Cancer Prevention Fellow  
- admitted to Harvard School of Public Health for a Master's in Public Health

• **Chenere P. Ramsey, Ph.D., Neuroscience:** As of 4/12/2010, I am a postdoctoral fellow at Emory University in the Rollins School of Public Health in the Department of Environmental and Occupational Health. Cheers!

• **Savannah Shange-Binion, Interdisciplinary Studies in Human Development/Africana Studies:** Finished her first year of graduate school, presented a paper/poster at a conference, and was accepted to present at the Caribbean Studies Association Conference in Barbados. Savannah also received a Summer Fels Fellowship to work with Youth Empowerment Services in developing a GED to College Program.

• **Christopher Skipwith, Medicine/Biochemistry and Molecular Biophysics:** Finished his second year of graduate school, presented a paper at a conference, had a paper/poster accepted at a conference, and successfully submitted a paper for publication. In addition,
Christopher was appointed to the NASA Harriet G. Jenkins Predoctoral Fellowship and NIH T32 Grant in Hemostasis/Thrombosis Predoctoral Christopher also got engaged!

- **Krystal Smalls, Educational Linguistics/Africana Studies:** Finished her second year of graduate schools, presented a paper at a the American Anthropological Association, sat on a panel for the Society for Linguistic Anthropology, had a accepted for presentation at a conference in Nairobi, Kenya this July paper (Multilinguism and education: Global practices, challenges, and the way forward), and a poster accepted for presentation this fall at the American Anthropological Association.

- **Riley Snorton, Communication:** Received a 2-year Mellon Postdoc in media studies at Pomona College to begin in January of 2011

- **Maryan Solimon, History:** Finished her third year of graduate school, got a poster/paper accepted for presentation at a conference (The State Spurs Activism: Georgia’s Insurrection Statute and the Communist Party during the 1930s – to be presented at the American Society for Legal History), and passed her departmental candidacy exam. In addition, Maryan was accepted to a workshop for her dissertation at the Institute for Constitutional History’s Summer Research Seminar at the George Washington University Law School in June.

- **Cedric Tolliver, PhD, (English), Assistant Professor, University of Houston

- **Kimberly A. Truong, Education:** I'm all set for May graduation. The Fontaine Society at Penn … has been a great support system. Kimberly also presented a poster at a conference, had a poster/paper accepted to a conference, got a job, as well as successfully submitted a manuscript for publication.

- **Nicole Turner, History:** Completed her fifth year of graduate school this year and also presented a paper at a conference, and submitted a first draft of a dissertation chapter. Nicole also received a Critical Writing Teaching Fellowship for 2010-2011. Nicole and her family are also expecting a baby!