



*“BEING NAMED A
PROVOST’S FELLOW
ACKNOWLEDGED
THAT THE WORK I
WAS DOING WAS
IMPORTANT.”*

—LaRon Nelson '02N, '04N (MS), '09N (PhD)
Dean’s Endowed Fellow in Health Disparities,
Assistant Professor of Nursing, and Associate
Director of International Research at the Center
for AIDS Research at the University of Rochester

After completing four years of military service, an aptitude test pointed LaRon Nelson in the direction of nursing. While attending the University’s School of Nursing, he was encouraged by faculty to pursue his PhD and his interest in preventing HIV and sexually transmitted diseases around the world.

The Provost’s Fellowship allowed him to focus on his research. “Without it, my learning would have been affected. Because of it, I did not have to choose between buying a book or dinner for a week. It minimized these stressors and it propelled my research.”