



OpTIMUM Students Listening to OpTIMUM Research Student's Poster Presentation

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Opportunities for Talent Expansion in Interdisciplinary Education for Minorities and Women in Undergraduate Math and Science Program



Partnerships with FSU STEM Enrichment Programs

CPSER
Center for Promoting STEM Education and Research
Phone: 910.672.2516

NC-LSAMP
North Carolina Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation
Phone: 910.672.2267

FSU-RISE
Fayetteville State University Research Initiative for Scientific Enhancement Program
Phone: 910.672.2104

UCAMCS
University and Community Alliance for Mathematics and Computer Science
Phone: 910.672.2104

McNair Program
The Ronald E. McNair Post baccalaureate Achievement Program
Phone: 910.672.2043

Partners
Fayetteville Technical Community College (FTCC) <http://www.faytechcc.edu/>

National Science Foundation (NSF) <http://www.nsf.gov/>

Science
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Engineering
Mathematics

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OpTIMUM

The **O**pportunities for **T**alent Expansion in **I**nterdisciplinary Education for **M**inorities and **W**omen in **U**ndergraduate **M**ath and **S**cience program is a collaboration between Fayetteville State University (FSU) and Fayetteville Technical Community College (FTCC) and is funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF). The Purpose of the program is to provide challenging academic curricula and enrichment opportunities that will encourage and enable minorities and women to complete baccalaureate degrees in **B**iology, **B**iotechnology, **C**hemistry, **C**omputer Science, and **M**ath to enter the **S**TEM workforce.

Program Objectives

- Increase college enrollment of under represented minority students and women in the STEM disciplines
- Improve educational opportunities for minority students and women in the STEM disciplines
- Increase first-year and second-year retention rates of STEM majors.
- Increase 5-year graduation rate for STEM majors
- Improve student access to and utilization of support programs available at the University
- Develop degree articulations and dual enrollment programs in the STEM disciplines with FTCC and other community colleges in the service area
- Strengthen partnerships between the University, local school districts, and local STEM educational organizations
- Increase the number of STEM faculty receiving professional development in teaching using innovative strategies for delivery of instruction and enhance advisement

Program Requirements

- Attend monthly meetings
- Enroll in OpTIMUM Program Interdisciplinary Math and Science course
- Participate in and attend Seminars, Work-shops and Symposiums
- Volunteer for Cumberland County Public School System and/or FSU
- Apply for Internships at FSU and other Institutions
- Serve as a STEM Ambassador
- Maintain a professional and respectful demeanor

Program Benefits

- \$\$\$ Scholarship per academic semester
- Enhanced student advisement and mentorship
- Paid preparation for Graduate Record Examination (GRE)
- Assistance with obtaining Summer Re-search Internships
- Eligible to matriculate to Honors, Rise, LSAMP programs after completion of at least one year in OpTIMUM
- Provided with private tutoring for Math and Science Courses

