The Mathematical Sciences in Obesity Research
University of Alabama at Birmingham
May 12-16, 2014

Women in Statistics Conference
Cary, North Carolina
May 15-27, 2014

SAMSI Undergraduate Modeling Workshop
North Carolina State University
May 18-23, 2014

2014 NSF-CBMS Conference
University of Texas at Arlington
May 27-31, 2014

Conference on Partial Differential Equations
Novacella, Italy
May 28-June 1, 2014

Recruiting and Retaining Graduate Students in the Statistical Sciences and Applied Mathematics
Research Triangle Park, NC
June 5-6, 2014

Poisson 2014
The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
August 4-8, 2014

MAA MathFest
Portland, Oregon
August 6-9, 2014

ICERM IdeaLab 2014
Brown University
August 11-15, 2014

SAMSI Bioinformatics Workshop
Research Triangle Park, NC
September 8-12, 2014

Field of Dreams Conference
Phoenix, AZ
November 7-9, 2014

Last month Directors from each of the 7 Alliance Regions met with the Alliance Leadership Board for their annual meeting in Phoenix, Arizona. We are excited to report that many Alliance Regions are beginning to form Regional Sub-Alliances. Notably the Pacific Region has taken great initiative to get the Pacific Math Alliance up and running.

Led by Dr. Helena Noronha of California State University, Northridge, The Pacific Math Alliance began through the collaboration of a small number of dedicated faculty members with experience in mentoring students from under-represented groups in Southern California.

The goal of the Pacific Math Alliance is to build a regional community of mentors that will help under-represented minority students pursue advanced study & careers in the mathematical sciences.

As part of the National Alliance for Doctoral Studies in the Mathematical Sciences and, consistent with its goals, the Pacific Math Alliance aims to increase the number of under-represented minority students from their region (currently California, Hawaii, Oregon and Washington) who enter Ph.D. programs in the Mathematical Sciences, as well as to improve the quality of mathematical education provided to them prior to the Ph.D. program. They also focus on the critical transition from high school to college and from community college to a four-year college, in addition to emphasizing the variety of career options that are available to Math majors.

One program the Pacific Math Alliance helps organize is the Preparing Undergraduates through Mentoring towards PhDs Program (PUMP). The PUMP Summer Program is a 4-week long Summer Program from July 7 to August 1 open to California State University Alliance Schools (Channel Island, Northridge, LA, Pomona, San Bernardino, Fullerton, Dominguez Hills and Long Beach). The 2014 PUMP Summer Program will take place at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona.

PUMP also holds an Undergraduate Research Groups in Mathematics Program (URG) which is currently inviting faculty from CSUCI, CSUN, CSULA, CSULB, CSUB, CSUSM, CSUDH, CSU Fullerton, CSU Fresno, CSUSB, CPP, and CPSLO to submit proposals.

We invite you to visit the Pacific Math Alliance website to learn about the programs that are already in place.
The Math Alliance Research Study surveyed a sample of Alliance Mentors about their role in making the mathematical disciplines more accessible and inclusive to traditionally underrepresented students. Mentors spoke to their perceptions of the most beneficial aspects of the Alliance for different groups, their level of involvement in the Alliance, how they identified students to join the Math Alliance, and their motivations to attend the Field of Dreams Conference. Their results can be viewed on the infographic on page 3 of the newsletter or on their website.
MENTOR SURVEY

We surveyed a sample of mentors of the National Alliance for Doctoral Studies in Mathematics about their role in making the mathematical disciplines more accessible and inclusive to traditionally underrepresented students. Mentors spoke to their perceptions of the most beneficial aspects of the Alliance for different groups, their level of involvement in the Alliance, how they identified students to join the Math Alliance, and their motivations to attend the Field of Dreams.

**Level of Students they Mentor**

- Undergraduate: 77%
- Graduate: 40%
- None: 13%

**Mentor Departments**

- Pure Math
- Applied Math
- Statistics
- Graduate
- Other
- Multiple

**Most Beneficial Aspect of the Alliance for**

1. Networking
2. Help Mentees
3. Learning
4. Community
5. Pool of Students
6. Broaden Participation

**Faculty Mentors**

- 1. Exposure to Opportunities
- 2. Networking
- 3. Mentorship
- 4. Encouragement
- 5. Field of Dreams
- 6. Support
- 7. Academic
- 8. Financial
- 9. Community

**Students**

- 1. Diversity
- 2. Information
- 3. Exposure
- 4. Networking
- 5. Graduate School Awareness

**Level of Involvement in the Alliance:**

- 83.3% Serve as Mentors
- 47.8% Network with Faculty
- 15.6% Host an REU
- 20% Community Outreach

**Top 5 Ways Mentors Identify Students to Recruit**

1. Recruited a Student to Join the Math Alliance
2. Recruited a Student to Attend Field of Dreams
3. Recruited a Student to Attend Field of Dreams More Than Once
4. Recruited a Student to Attend Field of Dreams
5. Recruited a Student to Attend Field of Dreams

**Field of Dreams**

- 68.9% Have Attended Field of Dreams
- 50% Have Attended Field of Dreams More Than Once
- 74.2% Learn About Diversity
- 77.4% Network with Colleagues
- 48.3% Support Graduate Mentors
- 48.3% Recruitment
- 72.6% Help Undergraduate Find Graduate Programs

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Rincon, B. (April 2014). University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

For more information about the National Alliance for Doctoral Studies please visit matnascience.org

Please direct all questions and comments to the Math Alliance Research Team at steing@education.illinois.edu

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