

# Math Alliance News

Upcoming Events:

Knowledge Extraction via Comparison of Complex Computational Models to Massive Data Sets SAMSI, Research Triangle Park July 29-31, 2013

**CMSS: Opening Workshop** SAMSI, Research Triangle Park August 18-22, 2013

**Modern Math Workshop** San Antonio, Texas October 1-2, 2013

SACNAS National Conference "Strengthening the Nation Through Diversity, Innovation & Leadership in STEM" San Antonio, Texas October 3-6, 2013

Social Network Data: Collection and Analysis Workshop Research Triangle Park October 21-23, 2013

**E&O: Undergraduate Workshop** SAMSI, Research Triangle Park October 24-25, 2013

**Field of Dreams Conference** Phoenix, Arizona November 1-3, 2013

Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students (ABRCMS) Nashville, Tennessee November 13-17, 2013

SIDIM XXIX Catholic University of Puerto Rico February 28- March 1, 2014

# Field of Dreams Conference

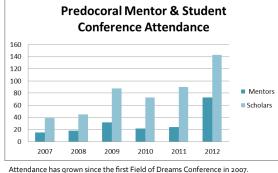
Join us in Phoenix, Arizona November 1-3, 2013

The National Alliance for Doctoral Studies in the Mathematical Sciences is pleased to announce the Seventh Annual Mathematical Field of Dreams Conference, held once again at the Phoenix East/Mesa Hilton Hotel in Mesa, Arizona.

Each fall, Alliance Scholars, together with their Alliance Mentors, are invited to the Field of Dreams Conference. The Field of Dreams Conference introduces potential graduate students, from groups that are underrepresented in the mathematical sciences, to graduate programs in the mathematical sciences at Alliance schools as well as professional opportunities in these fields.



This year the Field of Dreams Conference will be bigger and better than ever, offering several new programs for students to assist them as they continue their education in the math sciences. The first program, The Uniform Admissions Program, is geared towards predoctoral students that are ready to begin their doctoral studies. During the conference they will meet with a faculty facilitator, revise their personal statement and apply to a graduate program during the Field of Dreams Conference. The second program is for predoctoral students that would like a summer experience in an REU. We are hoping that they will be able to secure the information they need and actually sign up for these programs during the conference. Priority will be given to students that are eligible to apply to either of these programs. Please keep this in mind as you nominate your students.



Attendance has grown since the first Field of Dreams Conference in 2007. This year we look forward to an even bigger group of Alliance Scholars & Mentors. If you are interested in attending the Field of Dreams Conference, please ask your Alliance Mentor to nominate you. If you are not presently an Alliance Scholar and would like to become one, please contact us at <u>mathalliance@uiowa.edu</u>.

The deadline for applying is September 3! However, we will start making our selections on August 16 and these slots will fill up quickly.

We are also excited to announce the launch of our newly redesigned website. The new website features easier to navigate pages and tools to find all the information you need to join and stay connected with the Alliance Community. We hope you enjoy the new layout and would love to hear what you think! Please send any comments or suggestions to mathalliance@uiowa.edu.

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### Research Experiences for Undergraduates: Current Best Practices



The latest brief from the Math Alliance Research Study highlights the importance of undergraduate research experiences within the math and sciences, as well as best practices for creating and sustaining science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) intervention programs. The following questions will be explored:

- 1. What do we know about Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU)
- 2. What are the components that make up an REU? What are current best practices of successful REUs
- 3. What resources are available for those seeking to establish and sustain an REU?

As the members of the Math Alliance Research Study (MARS) learn about and advance the understanding of issues relevant to the National Alliance for Doctoral Studies in Mathematical Sciences, briefs on these issues and findings will be shared with the broader community. Check their page regularly for the latest briefs and publications. The Math Alliance Research Study will also be launching their student and faculty online surveys this fall. Alliance Community members will be receiving an invitation via e-mail early in the fall semester.

# Congratulations to University of Texas at Arlington Mathematics Department on American Mathematical Society Award

The National Alliance for Doctoral Studies in the Mathematical Sciences would like to congratulate The University of Texas at Arlington for receiving the 2013 AMS Award for an Exemplary Program or Achievement in a Mathematics Department. UT Arlington Mathematics Department was recognized for doubling the size of its doctoral program over the past five years and bolstering those ranks with historically underrepresented student groups. To read more about the award click here.



## MAA MathFest 2013

Town Meeting on Goals for Minority Participation in Mathematics



Frank Morgan, Talithia Williams, and Alissa Crans are organizing a town meeting at MathFest this summer on broadening participation in mathematics. Specifically, the session is being held to discuss the 42 recommendations produced twenty-five years ago by an MAA Task Force on Minority Participation in Mathematics for how the MAA could help broaden participation in mathematics. This town meeting will feature an open discussion on progress

and priorities since the report was issued in 1988 and will culminate with three goals to take away and work on as a community. In preparation for this session, and to include feedback from all who cannot attend the meeting, mentors are invited to engage in a discussion on the following website hosted by the MAA. If you are unable to attend, please send comments to Frank Morgan at <u>Frank.Morgan@williams.edu</u>.