

Dear Math Alliance Community,

I am writing today to update you on our upcoming events. The Math Alliance Executive Council recently met to consider the status of the 2020 Field of Dreams Conference, in light of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. In order to protect the health and safety of all in our community, and because it seems unlikely that academic institutions will be approving travel for conferences like the Field of Dreams, **we have decided to switch from the planned in-person conference in Minneapolis to a virtual event.**

The Council also was resolute in affirming we will provide virtual programming to:

- Support all in our community, particularly our F-GAP students, throughout the fall;
- Provide students information about graduate study and graduate programs that is usually available to them through the Field of Dreams Conference;
- Give our GPGs the opportunity to meet and recruit students from among our Math Alliance Scholars, and provide our Math Alliance Scholars the opportunity to consider a wide variety of graduate programs to find the one that works best for them;
- Provide Math Alliance Scholars access to REUs;
- Support placement of Math alliance Scholars with doctorates in careers; and
- Continue to build and support our Math Alliance Community.

We are still working out the details of these events, as well as the dates during which we will hold them, but expect the programming to be spread out over the fall. There will be some concentrated times of activities, and **we plan to hold our capstone virtual event on the weekend we had reserved for Field of Dreams.**



***Virtual Field of Dreams Experience
November 6-8, 2020
Details to come!!***

Our Agenda Committee is working hard to determine which aspects of the Field of Dreams Conference can be moved to an online format, which parts cannot, and what new programming we might create now that we've made the decision to move our event all online. We recently worked with our partners at IMA to successfully transfer our summer [Career Paths in the Math Sciences workshop for F-GAP students and their mentors](#) to a fully online format, and we feel it was very successful. This gives us confidence that we can create online content that will achieve many, if not all, of our goals. We look forward to working further with IMA to develop the events for the fall programming. While we are disappointed to not be able to gather in one place, and get the spiritual reinforcement that physical closeness at our annual conference provides so many of us, we are think that this as an opportunity to create new events and try some new formats that will enrich our community and that can become a permanent part of our annual events. We will be in touch soon with more details, and we look forward to seeing you all participate in our virtual community this fall.

David Goldberg
Executive Director