Equal Opportunity Planning Committee (EOPC)
Funded Programs Summer 2001 and Academic Year 2001-2002

Summer 2001 Programs

Pre-College Programs - for prospective undergraduate students or undergraduate students admitted in the summer 2001 semester

[Email addresses are directed to: @psu.edu]

Program Title: Bugs, Books, and Biology Summer Camp 2001
Campus: Penn State Berks
Project Director: Walt Fullam

   Phone: (610) 396-6223
   Email: wff1

Program Description: “Bugs, Books, and Biology” is an academic and recreational summer camp for urban youth from low-income families. The curriculum of the camp includes poetry workshops, 4-H projects, biology lab experiments, computer activities, and recreational activities.

Program Title: Business and Technology 2001
Campus: Penn State Delaware County
Project Director: Sharmon Bryant

   Phone: (610) 892-1272
   Email: sqb6

Program Description: The Business and Technology 2001 program provides an opportunity to expose and recruit multicultural students to the four-year Business and Information Systems Technology degrees at Penn State Delaware County. Students will enroll in a 3-credit introductory business or technology course based on their career interest. In addition, faculty from these disciplines will provide workshops on industry related topics. The students will also participate in a variety of activities and experiences that enhance their academic, career, and personal development. Areas addressed include study skills, financial aid, admission criteria/application processes, leadership, cultural-affirmation, and career and personal development.

Program Title: Girls in Engineering Day Camp
Campus: University Park
Project Director: Sandy Larese Nixon
Program Description: The camp provides middle school girls of all backgrounds with the place and opportunity to explore hands-on activities, to develop non-traditional career goals, to cultivate peer groups who are active participants, and to work with positive role models. This program aims to attract women, who make up only 9% of the engineering workforce, early, before they are turned from acquiring the math and analytical skills necessary to study engineering.

Program Title: Hispanics for Academic Progress (HAP)
Campus: University Park
Project Director: Melissa Landrau-Rodriguez

    Phone: (814) 865-1773
    Email: mxl256

Program Description: HAP provides Hispanic/Latino high school students who are between the 11th and 12th grades an opportunity to experience college life during the summer session at University Park. Students take two classes and participate in developmental and cultural activities.

Program Title: Nittany Science Camp for Girls
Campus: University Park
Project Director: Cyndi Freeman Fail

    Phone: (814) 863-2751
    Email: cff1

Program Description: Compelling research on girls' intellectual and psychological development indicates that preadolescent and adolescent girls experience a loss of self-esteem, coupled with lower career aspirations, than boys the same age. In particular, research indicates a significant gender gap exists in rates of participation in science, engineering, and technology, which is especially apparent in high school science and math classes. To redress this gender gap, the Nittany Science Camp for Girls was established. The program intends to dispel stereotype images of science, engineering, and technology as male activities and replace those images with visions of females actively participating and excelling in science.

Program Title: “Opportunity Knocks” . . . An Academic Summer Camp
Campus: Penn State New Kensington
Project Director: Angela Fisher
Program Description: The purpose of the program is to expose a diverse group of students from various ethnic, racial, and socioeconomic backgrounds to careers in the allied health, science, and technology fields with hopes of eventually recruiting these students to Penn State.

Program Title: Penn State Engineering VEC-Tour Camp for Girls
Campus: University Park
Project Director: Barbara Bogue

Phone: (814) 863-5790
Email: bbogue
[Email address directed to: @engr.psu.edu]

Program Description: The College of Earth and Mineral Sciences' (EMS) Diversity Enhancement Programs and the College of Engineering's Women in Engineering Program offer a one-week discovery camp for 60 high school girls in the junior and senior years and six counselor/facilitators. The goal of the camp is to attract more girls into engineering, addressing an international underrepresentation of women in technology-related careers. The Upward-Bound University-Wide Academic Enrichment Program University of Durban-Westville, South Africa in Durban South Africa will also participate in this program. Current engineering women students in EMS and Engineering will be recruited as camp counselors. The program targets juniors and seniors in high school because this is an age when students with the right preparation, talents, and interests may not have considered engineering and will benefit not only from an active, non-traditional approach to this non-traditional career for women and also from exposure to role models.

Program Title: Pre-Freshman Engineering and Science (PREF)
Campus: University Park
Project Director: Amy Freeman

Phone: (814) 865-7138
Email: afreeman

Program Description: PREF is a rigorous academic enrichment and orientation program specifically developed to bolster the retention of first year under-represented students of color entering curriculums in engineering and science at the Penn State University Park campus. The components of PREF accommodate the academic, social, cultural, and adjustment needs of these students.

Program Title: Set2Go
Campus: Penn State York
Project Director: Judith J. Leece
Program Description: Penn State York has attempted to work with under-prepared students who enter our campus each year in a variety of ways. Most recently we have had several programs that operated independently of one another but sometimes overlapped. While each program has been well run and benefited students, the efforts have been confusing to the students, faculty and staff of our campus community and, of course, to incoming students. A major consideration in these efforts has been to bring students into the academic and social settings of the university with LL Ed, Cn Ed 297 and careful advising components, but these students’ basic math and writing skills deficiencies have not been addressed.

Program Title: Summer Intervention Program
Campus: Penn State Beaver
Project Director: Carleen Dinello

Phone: (724) 773-3824
Email: cjd9

Program Description: A directive was given to the Learning Center Directors (LCD) by the Penn State Beaver Integrated Counseling Team to develop a 30-hour summer program to enhance the retention of under-prepared entering freshmen students. Through EOPC seed money, the Learning Center Directors established the Summer Intervention Program (SIP) for under-prepared entering first-year students who demonstrated a deficiency in math and/or English composition skills. The program’s goal is to successfully enhance these students’ confidence levels to meet the academic standards of Penn State, to introduce them to a college environment, and to create networks among the participants, campus staff, and faculty, thereby improving the retention rate of this population at Penn State Beaver.

**College Student Programs - for currently enrolled students**

Program Title: Diversity Grants-in-Aid
Campus: University Park
Project Director: Margo Groff

Phone: (814) 865-7681
Email: mcg1

Program Description: Diversity Grants-In-Aid for International Education Programs and Studies (IEPS) in the University Office of International Programs enable needy students from under-represented groups to have access to international opportunities. Students who have been accepted for a PSU international program can apply for grants-in-aid by April 1 for a summer or fall semester/academic year IEPS program or by November 1 for spring semester program through the IEPS office in 222 Boucke Building.
Graduate Student Programs - for prospective graduate students

Program Title: ARL Open D.O.O.R.
Unit: Applied Research Laboratory
Project Director: Patricia G. Hayes

Phone: (814) 863-9940
Email: pgh1

Program Description: ARL Open D.O.O.R. (Diversity Outreach Opportunities in Research) summer research program serves as a means to provide undergraduate students from historically black colleges and universities (HCBU) and other schools with opportunities to conduct research in the applied sciences with engineering and computer science faculty from the Applied Research Laboratory at Penn State. It is anticipated that by exposing HBCU students to Penn State research facilities, faculty, graduate programs, and the Penn State University environment, opportunities will be created to actively recruit the summer interns for admission to Penn State’s graduate degree programs.

Academic Year 2001-2002 Programs

College Student Programs - for first-year or continuing undergraduate students

Program Title: American Studies Course Cluster for Non-Native Students
Campus: Delaware County Campus
Project Director: Christine Ziemba

Phone: (610) 892-1497
Email: cz13

Program Description: American Studies Course Cluster for Non-Native Students is designed to provide courses and academic support to increase retention and skills of students who are limited in English proficiency.

Program Title: Collaborating to Excel
Campus: Delaware County Campus
Project Director: Norma Notzold

Phone: (610) 892-1460
Email: non1

Program Description: Collaborating to Excel present opportunities to under-represented college students to work together by collaborating in study groups and in learning about and accessing computer technology in the Learning Center.
Program Title: eLion Module: Successful Academic Adjustment to College
Campus: University Park
Project Director: James Levin

Phone: (814) 863-3889
Email: jl7

Program Description: At Penn State the retention and graduation rates of first-generation African American and Hispanic/Latino students fall below those of white students. Research indicates that African American and Hispanic/Latino students attending predominantly white institutions are less likely to seek assistance when academic difficulties arise. This reluctance stems from a belief that they will be judged as being less able and prepared than the predominant student population if they seek assistance. To increase the likelihood of graduation for these students, a system should be implemented to provide expert academic assistance that is non-judgmental, accessible, private, and secure. Over the past few years, Penn State has developed a Web system, eLion, that assists students with various academic actions, such as getting transcripts and scheduling classes. This eLion module will assist students who are having academic difficulties. Although this module will be available to all Penn State undergraduates, it will be especially beneficial to the target population since it will provide assistance in an environment that is private and anonymous.

Program Title: Knowledge, Excellence, Wisdom, and Learning
Campus: University Park
Project Director: Ajay T. Nair

Phone: (814) 865-1773
Email: ajaynair

Program Description: This mentoring program was designed to address the retention of Asian and Pacific American (APA) students at Penn State. Although Penn State has more than 25 identifiable mentoring programs across the University Park campus, none address the need to retain and graduate APA undergraduate students. Historically, this lack of support stems from the labeling of APA students as a “model minority,” and the many biases against APA students due to that label. However, at Penn State, APA students still lag behind white students in their retention and graduation rates. The objectives of the program are to assist incoming APA students in making a successful transition from high school to college.

Program Title: Senior Re-Entry Seminar
Campus: University Park
Project Director: Melissa Landrau-Rodriguez (Tristana Harvey, Co-Director)

Phone: (914) 865-1773
Email: mxl256
Program Description: The Senior Re-Entry Seminar hopes to address some of the issues that affect the re-entry of first generation multicultural students to their families, home communities, and home job market. The seminar strives to help students identify and understand the changes in their personal lives and in their home communities and to use this knowledge to develop strategies to join the professional world effectively and efficiently.

Program Title: A Strong Network of Encouragement: A Peer Mentoring Program
Campus: Penn State DuBois
Project Director: Deborah Gill

    Phone: (814) 375-4783
    Email: djg25

Program Description: The goal of the proposed project is to continue a student mentoring program for first generation college students. By providing mentors to English 004, HDFS 129, Spanish 1 and Spanish 2, we hope to continue our efforts to increase retention, improve academic performance, and develop the study skills of first-generation college students.

Program Title: Women’s Education, Career, and Life Planning Seminar
Campus: University Park
Project Director: Betsy (Baird) Esposito

    Phone: (814) 863-3887
    Email: bxb4

Program Description: The Women’s Education, Career, and Life Planning Seminar is designed to help women learn more about themselves, their career interests and options, as well as be informed about the diverse educational programs and services offered by Penn State.

**Graduate Student Programs - for prospective and currently enrolled graduate students**

Program Title: Academic Computing Fellows
Campus: University Park
Project Director: Gary Augustson

    Phone: (814) 863-3746
    Email: jga

Program Description: Academic Computing Fellows provides financial support to students who typically are under-represented in the information sciences. The program is for doctoral students from a variety of disciplines who have appropriate backgrounds and strong interests in applying computer technology to their academic fields.
Program Title: Safe Children, Safe Families
Campus: University Park
Project Director: Pamela J. Glanert

Phone: (814) 865-3085
Email: pjg138

Program Description: This is a health and safety fair targeting international families on the University Park campus of Penn State. The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia trauma program has donated four modular rooms with magnetic features. The participants will be able to visually identify safety problems and change them on the modules. This is a good way for participants to learn without language barriers. To accompany this display, several items have been donated to enhance the fair.

Medical Student Programs - for prospective medical students

Program Title: Recruitment and Retention of Under-represented Medical and Graduate Students
Campus: College of Medicine/Hershey
Project Director: Alphonse E. Leure-duPree

Phone: (717) 531-6411
Email: djl11

Program Description: The goals and the specific aims of this project are the recruitment, matriculation and retention of under-represented multicultural students in medical and/or graduate school at the Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine. The program will continue the summer research partnership with Lincoln, Cheyney, and Penn State. Partly due to this program, over the past 13 years the number of under-represented multicultural students enrolled in the College of Medicine has increased significantly from 7% to 23%, and the graduate student enrollment has gone from less than .05% to 6.0%.

Faculty/Staff Programs

Program Title: “In Their Shoes” – Sensitivity Program
Campus: Penn State Altoona
Project Director: Joy Himmel

Phone: (814) 949-5540
Email: jvh1

Program Description: “Disability…is the one minority that anyone can join at any time . . . ,” Joseph P. Shapiro. People with disabilities are people first who differ in personality and ability. “In their shoes” is about acknowledging and respecting people with disabilities. This proposal hopes to secure the resources in order to provide faculty and staff with sensitivity
training to enhance their understanding and comfort level in working with fellow employees and students with disabilities.

**Student, Faculty, Staff, and Community Programs**

Program Title: Beyond Tolerance: Reaching Toward Unity  
Campus: University Park  
Project Director: Amy Dupain Vashaw

- Phone: (814) 863-8205  
- Email: adv1

Program Description: Beyond Tolerance: Reaching Toward Unity is a project which utilizes the performing arts as a catalyst to dialogue about racial issues facing the campus and area community. The program engages a group of artists for a week and brings them to campus to address these issues through direct interaction with students, faculty and administration, and community members.

Program Title: Queer Literary Studies in the 21st Century: A Lecture-Discussion Series  
Campus: University Park  
Project Director: Vincent A. Lankewish

- Phone: (814) 865-4383  
- Email: val4

Program Description: This series will focus on the relations between literary production and queer identities; the study of these relations within the academy; and their far-reaching cultural, social, and political implications. Six invited speakers working in literatures in English in a range of literary-historical periods, genres, reading methodologies, and disciplines will consider the links between textuality and sexuality, along with the gains made and the obstacles still faced by scholars in the field of queer theory. Through their exploration of the connections between “content” and “form” that historically have motivated the study of literature, speakers will intervene in ongoing debates about the “universality” presumed to inhere in great works of art. In addition to their formal presentations, speakers will lead a luncheon seminar on an assigned reading and will be invited to contribute to an essay collection on the series theme.

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