Upcoming Events

The Mathematical Sciences in Obesity Research
University of Alabama at Birmingham
June 22-26, 2015

Bayesian Nonparametrics: Synergies between Statistics, Probability & Mathematics
Research Triangle Park, NC
June 29-July 2, 2015

Research Experiences for Undergraduate Faculty (REUF)
Providence, RI
July 20-24, 2015

Interdisciplinary Approaches to Biomedical Data Science Challenges
Research Triangle Park, NC
July 20-24, 2015

Computational Neuroscience Summer School
Research Triangle Park, NC
July 27-31, 2015

Joint Statistical Meetings
Seattle, WA
August 8-13, 2015

Diversity Mentoring Program
Seattle, WA
August 9-12, 2015

Program on Statistics & Applied Mathematics in Forensic Science
Research Triangle Park, NC
August 27-29, 2015

Program on Statistics & Applied Mathematics in Forensic Sciences
Research Triangle Park, NC
August 31-September 4, 2015

Modern Math Workshop
Washington DC
October 28-29, 2015

SACNAS National Conference
Washington DC
October 29-31, 2015

2015 Field of Dreams Conference
Birmingham, AL
November 6-8, 2015

2015 FIELD OF DREAMS CONFERENCE
November 6-8, 2015
Birmingham, Alabama

With the Field of Dreams Conference just 6 months away we are excitedly beginning to make preparations! This year the conference will be held at the Sheraton Birmingham Hotel located in Downtown Birmingham, Alabama. The Field of Dreams Conference brings together faculty in the mathematical sciences with students from backgrounds underrepresented in those fields. This will be an exciting weekend that will provide something for everyone.

Currently Accepting Nominations for the Facilitated Graduate Applications Program (FGAP): It is not too late to send us your Alliance Scholar nominations for the Facilitated Graduate Applications Program (FGAP). FGAP participants will be paired with a Faculty Facilitator (Doctoral Mentor) from one of our 32 Alliance Graduate Program Groups (GPGs) who will review their application materials to graduate school and provide additional information as needed. Working together with the scholar's local mentor, this team of experienced faculty will immensely help strengthen the scholars application materials.

Students that will go through the FGAP process should meet the following criteria. They should:

- be a senior or MS student who will graduate by Spring 2016 and plan to enroll in a graduate program in Fall 2016
- have the desire to enter a graduate program
- have the potential to apply to at least one Alliance graduate program
- & have the math &/or stat background appropriate to enter a graduate program.

If you have students that match the criteria above and would like to nominate them for the 2015 FGAP process please send their names and email address to Billie Townsend at **billie-townsend@uiowa.edu.**

Faculty, Exhibitors, & Doctoral Students- Register & Reserve Your Room Now!
You can reserve your room now by visiting the **Sheraton Birmingham Hotel site here.** Room rates are $99.00 a night for either single or double occupancy. The Alliance Group Rate is good through October 4th so make your reservation early! You can also register for the Conference by filling out the **online form here.** This year we have extra conference space to add additional sessions & panels. If you have a topic you would like to see added to the agenda please email us at **mathalliance@uiowa.edu.**

We have also updated the Field of Dreams Conference webpage with more information as well as a tentative agenda of events. **Click here** to visit the Conference webpage.

Click here to visit our Flickr page to view previous Field of Dreams Conference Photos!

GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS

The Department of Mathematics at Grand Valley State University invites applications for three one-year visiting faculty positions beginning August 2015. These positions are non-tenure-track, nine-month contract positions that may be renewed on an annual basis for up to two additional years.

Qualifications: Ph.D. in Mathematics expected by August 2015; dedication to excellence in teaching undergraduate mathematics; evidence of reflective thinking about the teaching and learning of mathematics at the undergraduate level; commitment to promote student engagement in learning via student-centered instructional approaches and the use of appropriate technological tools in the classroom; interest in teaching precalculus and calculus courses.

Responsibilities: Duties include teaching 12 credits (3 or 4 courses) each semester consisting primarily of precalculus and calculus courses. Visiting faculty do not have scholarship or service expectations beyond participating in mentoring and course coordination meetings.

Department: Grand Valley State University and the Department of Mathematics emphasize teaching excellence. The department offers undergraduate majors in mathematics, mathematics for future elementary teachers, and mathematics for future secondary teachers, as well as courses in support of other undergraduate majors and the university's general education program. The department offers a collegial climate where over twenty mathematicians, more than a dozen mathematics educators, twelve affiliate faculty, and several adjunct faculty work collaboratively. Class sizes are small with no class exceeding 32 students. The department is committed to creating learning environments that are student-centered and to engaging students in mathematics beyond the classroom. Faculty in the department employ diverse teaching methods, including the use of manipulatives, technology/graphing calculators, and cooperative learning, along with multiple methods of assessment. Computer facilities are extensive, and each classroom includes wireless and network access with overhead digital projectors and full audio and visual capabilities. For more information, see www.gvsu.edu/math.

How to Apply: To apply, send the following documents via e-mail to kuzeej@gvsu.edu, with the subject line Mathematics Visitor Search.
1. A current curriculum vitae
2. A personal statement (3 pages maximum) that includes:
   -A summary of your teaching experience, philosophy, and methodology
   -A reflection on your recent teaching experience, including discussion of your strengths as a teacher, challenges you face in instruction, and plans or goals for growth.
3. A copy of your undergraduate and graduate transcripts. (Unofficial transcripts are acceptable.)
4. The names and contact information of at least two references who can comment on your teaching.

Deadline: Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until the positions are filled.
For More Information: If you have questions or would like more information, please send an e-mail to: Dr. Jonathan Hodge, Chair, Department of Mathematics, hodgejo@gvsu.edu.

Grand Valley State University is an affirmative action, equal opportunity institution.

2015 Modern Math Workshop

OCTOBER 28—29, 2015

at the 2015 SACNAS National Conference
Washington, DC Metropolitan Area

As part of the *Mathematical Sciences Collaborative Diversity Initiatives*, nine mathematics institutes are pleased to host the **2015 Modern Math Workshop** (MMW) during the SACNAS National Conference. The workshop begins with registration at noon on Wednesday, October 28, and ends at noon on Thursday, October 29.

The Modern Math Workshop presents 2 mini-courses for undergraduates and talks related to the research programs at the math institutes that would be of interest to graduate students and early career researchers. It is intended to encourage minority undergraduates to pursue careers in the mathematical sciences and to assist undergraduates, graduate students and recent PhD's in building their research networks.

The workshop will culminate on Thursday, Oct. 29 with a plenary lecture by Dr. Freeman Hrabowski, President of UMBC (The University of Maryland, Baltimore County).

Most participants attending this workshop are supported by SACNAS as part of the SACNAS National Conference. To apply to SACNAS, please see: **www.tinyurl.com/SACNAS-travel-scholarships**.

There is limited funding available directly from MMW to fund attendance at MMW and SACNAS. Priority for these funds will be given to minority graduate students and early career researchers. Applications will be via MathPrograms.org. The application process will start May 15, 2015 and end July 31, 2015. For more information and to apply for such funding, please visit **www.msri.org/e/MMW2015.**

2015 Joint Statistical Meetings
Statistics Initiative for the Math Alliance

Date: Sunday 8/9/2015
Time: 8:00am—9:30am
Location: Convention Center Room 303

The National Alliance for Doctoral Studies in the Mathematical Sciences' Statistical Initiative will be having a meeting during the 2015 Joint Statistical Meetings. Any Alliance Mentors who will be attending the 2015 JSM are more than welcome to join! **Click here for a link to the session.**

2015 Joint Statistical Meetings
Diversity Mentoring Program

Seattle, WA
August 9-12, 2015

The American Statistical Association's Committee on Minorities in Statistics is now accepting applications for the 2015 JSM Diversity Mentoring Program. The program will match faculty and professional statisticians with students for a 4-day mentoring experience during the 2015 Joint Statistical Meetings in Seattle. The aim of the program is to increase underrepresented minority presence in the Statistics profession, among faculty, in government, and in the private sector.

The JSM Diversity Mentoring Program brings minority graduate and undergraduate students, post-doctoral scholars, and junior professionals together with senior-level statisticians and faculty in academia, government, and the private sector in a structured program at the annual Joint Statistical Meetings. The program provides career information, mentoring, and a peer network to participants. Program activities will include small group discussions and one-on-one meetings between mentor-protégé pairs.

For more information and the application form please visit
http://community.amstat.org/cmis/events/dmp
Application deadline for full consideration: June 15, 2015

Participation in Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU's)

Data for this infographic comes from the answers from undergraduate and graduate students who participated in the online survey distributed by the Math Alliance Research Study during the Fall of 2013.

Funded by the National Science Foundation, REU sites (universities) host approximately ten students during the summer. Students are provided with hands-on research experiences under the guidance of faculty, postdocs, and graduate students. Some programs also prepare students to enter graduate school by assisting with applications and GRE preparation.
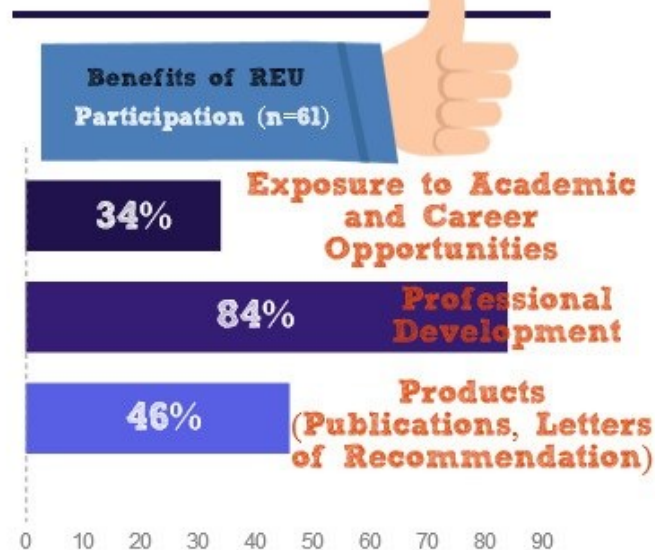
Of Alliance students who responded to the survey, 60.2% participated in an REU (n=98). Of these, 26 students' REU experiences were hosted at an institution with an Alliance Graduate Program Group.

How did participation influence students? (n=57)

Provided Experience --- 38%
Degree Aspirations --- 12%
Research Interest --- 10%

Benefits of REU Participation (n=61)

- 34% — Exposure to Academic and Career Opportunities
- 84% — Professional Development
- 46% — Products (Publications, Letters of Recommendation)

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90

Top 5 Sources of How Students First Learned about REUs (n=104)

1. REU Advertisement
2. Field of Dreams Conference
3. Professor
4. Advisor
5. Mentor

With the spring 2015 semester finished and summer gearing up, Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REUs) will soon be in full swing! REUs are a great way to gain invaluable experience that will help on your path to a graduate degree and research. The Math Alliance Research Study conducted a survey on Alliance Scholars and their REU participation, above are some of their findings. Click here to learn more about the Math Alliance Research Study and to see their past reports and infographics !