



College Readiness Workshop:

Preparing Students for Success in College Programs in STEM

Sponsored by the National Science Foundation and the
Louis Stokes Alliances for Minority Participation (Award No. 1612767)
(Pre-Alliance Planning for the Coalition for Promotion of Underrepresented Minorities in Academic STEM (PUMA-STEM))

February 22, 2017
Concordia University Chicago, Christopher Center, Room 341

Agenda

- 4:30-4:45 Introductions
- 4:45-5:30 Break into groups to discuss factors that are barriers to success
- 5:30-5:50 Report back to whole group
- 5:50-6:20 Discuss findings and possible solutions or improvements
- 6:20-6:30 Wrap-up and next steps

Workshop Goals

1. Increase awareness of college readiness barriers faced by underrepresented minority students (URMs)
2. Identify the most significant barriers for URMs related to success in STEM
3. Discuss and develop strategies to overcome these barriers



Discussion Questions

Use the questions below to guide your discussion. Please assign one recorder in your group who will take notes on the following pages. Notes will be collected at the conclusion of the workshop.

1. How should we define "college readiness" in terms of a student being able to graduate from college-level STEM programs?
2. What are the most significant barriers to "college readiness" that relate to secondary STEM programming or other pre-college training?
3. Are barriers to "college readiness" in STEM experienced differently by underrepresented minorities (URMs) in STEM compared to non-URMs (e.g., white students)? If so, what are these barriers and how do you think student experiences differ?
4. Are there certain challenges/barriers (e.g., social stigma, inadequate K-12 academics, etc.) that are experienced to a greater extent within some demographics of URM students compared to others?
5. What are the most important aspects of secondary (i.e., high school) STEM education, in terms of facilitating improved enrollment and completion rates for URMs in college STEM programs?

NOTES

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PUMA-STEM College Readiness Workshop Survey

Please reflect on this workshop and let us know what worked and what needs improvement. Your input is appreciated and will help us in planning future workshops.

For the following statements, please tell us how much you agree or disagree (1 = Strongly Disagree, 2 = Disagree, 3 = Not sure, 4 = Agree, 5 = Strongly Agree):

	Disagree				Agree
1. The workshop was informative.	1	2	3	4	5
2. The workshop was well organized.	1	2	3	4	5
3. This workshop increased my awareness of the college readiness barriers facing underrepresented minority students.	1	2	3	4	5
4. The workshop addressed concerns that are relevant to my students.	1	2	3	4	5

Please share your thoughts on the following questions:

1. Why did you choose to attend this workshop?
2. What did you find most valuable in this workshop?
3. What could have been done to improve this workshop?

PUMA-STEM Collaboration Interest Form

Are you interested in receiving other materials and/or participating in additional workshops from PUMA-STEM?

Yes

No

If so, please write your name and email address below:

What subject(s) and level(s) of students do you work with most?