

2003 SUMMER BRIDGE PROGRAM

JULY 6 - AUGUST 2, 2003



Summer Bridge Participants

COLLEGE OF SCIENCES AND MATHEMATICS

AUBURN UNIVERSITY

Table of Contents

	Page
Summer Bridge Program Sponsors	3
Goals and Objectives	4
Highlights from Previous Summer Bridges	4
2003 Summer Bridge Program Elements	4
Program Administration	4
Recruiting and Selection Procedure	5
2003 Participants	5
The Academic Program	5
Scholarships	6
Other Activities	7
Student Assessment	8
Awards Luncheon	9
Conclusion	10
Thanks	10
APPENDIX	
I Summer Bridge Program Staff	11
II Program Participants	not on web
III Faculty and Staff Participants	13
IV Weekly Program Schedule of Events	14
V Evaluation Results and Participant Comments	18

2003 Summer Bridge Program Sponsors

Bell South Pioneers - Birmingham Metro Council

Bell South Pioneers - South Cahaba Council

Dow Chemical Foundation

Prudential Foundation

Uniroyal-Goodrich Tire Company

Mr. and Mrs. Michael T. Baker

Dr. and Mrs. Overtoun Jenda

Dr. James W. Ott

Mr. and Mrs. Philip Rowton

Mr. and Mrs. Sylvester Scott

Mr. Andrew Sforzini

Mr. and Mrs. Noel Skeete

Dr. C. Dent Williams

Drs. Michael and Marie Wooten

Mr. David Housel, Director of Athletics, Auburn University

Dr. David Wilson, Associate Provost and Vice President for University Outreach, Auburn University

Mr. Robert Ritenbaugh, Director of Auxiliary Services, Auburn University

College of Sciences and Mathematics (COSAM)

I. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The goal of the Auburn University Summer Bridge Program is to implement an intensive four-week academic enrichment experience for incoming minority freshmen planning to major in Physical Sciences, Life Sciences, and Mathematics or enroll in Pre-Professional programs in Dentistry, Engineering, Medicine, Optometry, Pharmacy, Physical Therapy and Veterinary Medicine. The primary objective is to provide this enrichment experience to incoming African-American freshmen with an ACT score between 18 and 26. The program is designed to bridge the gap between high school and college by providing these students with tools needed in order to succeed and graduate in Science, Mathematics, Engineering, and Technology curricula at Auburn University.

II. HIGHLIGHTS FROM PREVIOUS SUMMER BRIDGES

TaShwana Thomas, Bridge '97, and Chika Nnedu, Bridge '97, are at University of South Alabama and University of Alabama - Birmingham Medical Schools, respectively. Regan Robinson, Bridge '98, is also at University of South Alabama Medical School while Nicole Harris, Bridge '98, is at Auburn University Graduate School studying Materials Engineering. Dayna Brown, Bridge '99, is at East Tennessee State University Graduate School studying Mathematics and Brian Gosa, Bridge '99, is at Auburn University Harrison School of Pharmacy.

III. 2003 SUMMER BRIDGE PROGRAM ELEMENTS

Program elements in the 2003 Summer Bridge Program included Chemistry and Mathematics courses and study workshops, computer training, orientation, career and academic advising, study and time management skills, Fall registration, seminars, visits to departments, schools, and colleges, and field trips to laboratories, hospital, and industry.

IV. PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

The 2003 Summer Bridge Program was again administered through the College of Sciences and Mathematics. Dr. Overtoun Jenda, Associate Dean of Minority Programs and Special Academic Projects, again served as Program Director and was assisted by Florence Holland, Minority Programs Coordinator and Deborah Buchanan, the administrative assistant at the Drop-In Center. Four currently enrolled minority students Stephen Davis, Charria Campbell, Shaquan Davis, Mark Naylor, and two recent 2003 Auburn graduates, Kristalyn Scott and Charmaine Porter, served as counselors. Stephen Davis, Mark Naylor, and Kristalyn Scott are previous Summer Bridge participants.

Counselors lived in the dorm with participants and provided constant counseling to the students throughout the four-week period. They were also responsible for planning recreational and weekend activities.

V. RECRUITING AND SELECTION PROCEDURE

Brochures were sent to all Alabama High Schools and all minority students that had been admitted to Auburn University Science and Engineering programs by February 2003. Forty applications were received competing for twenty-five slots in the program. An additional eleven inquiries were received after the deadline had passed. All the applicants met the admission requirements to the program. Final selection was therefore based on the short essay they were asked to submit as part of the application describing their career goals and explaining reasons why they chose their field of study.

VI. 2003 PARTICIPANTS

There were twenty-seven participants in the 2003 Summer Bridge Program. Twenty of the students were from Alabama, four were from Georgia, two were from Kentucky, and one from North Carolina. There were twenty-one females and six males in the group. Twenty-five of the students plan to major in Sciences and Mathematics and two in Engineering. The Summer Bridge average ACT score was 21.81, a significantly lower score than the College of Sciences and Mathematics (COSAM) average ACT score of 25.3 for the Fall 2003 incoming freshman class. So far, 202 incoming minority freshmen have participated in the seven Summer Bridges starting summer of 1997.

2003 Bridge participants lived in Hollifield Hall and had their meals at Terrel Cafeteria and the Foy Student Union during the week and at various eateries over weekends. Participants did not receive a stipend and were responsible for their own transportation to and from campus. The Bridge Program was responsible for room and board, instructional costs including books and supplies, and other program related activities.

VII. THE ACADEMIC PROGRAM

Participants took an equivalent of Chemistry 1030 (Fundamentals of Chemistry I) and Mathematics 1150 (Pre-Calculus Algebra and Trigonometry). These courses were not taken for credit. This gave

instructors flexibility to repeat important concepts that students had difficulties with and made it possible for more attention to be given to students the study workshops.

Dr. Stephen Stuckwisch, associate professor of Mathematics, taught the Mathematics course and was assisted by Dr. Sarah Holliday who ran the Mathematics Workshops. Dr. Robert Donnelly taught Chemistry and Tesfaye Serbessa ran the Chemistry Workshops.



Each course met for 75 minutes each weekday and had a parallel workshop that was designed to

provide supplemental instruction. Workshops met for two hours three times a week. Participants were assigned homework daily and had weekly tests in each of the courses. Drs. Stuckwisch and Donnelly submitted weekly progress reports on each of the students to Dr. Jenda. This information was valuable in identifying participants that needed special attention.



VIII. SCHOLARSHIPS

As a result of outstanding performance during the 2003 Summer Bridge, Zakiya Harris, Lea Jordan, Kimberly McGrue, and Ashley Sneed were awarded College of Sciences and Mathematics (COSAM) Advisory Council scholarships. Kiersten Koen was awarded a National Science Foundation Mathematics Scholarship. Another outstanding bridge participant, Mary Aboko-Cole, was awarded a COSAM Advisory Council Scholarship prior to coming to the Bridge program.

IX. OTHER ACTIVITIES

1. Student Affairs

Faculty and staff were invited to address students (see Appendix III). Topics included deciding on majors, career exploration and planning, study and time management skills, test-taking and note-taking skills, technical writing, and making the transition to college.

2. Field Trips

Field trips were made to Coca-Cola Bottling Company in Montgomery, East Alabama Medical Center and Uniroyal-Goodrich Tire Company in Opelika, Briggs and Stratton in Auburn, Carver Museum in Tuskegee, Auburn University College of Veterinary Medicine, Auburn University Harrison School of Pharmacy, Auburn University Ralph Brown Draughon Library, and the Auburn University's President's House.



Summer Bridge Participants at Auburn University President's Home

3. Computer Training

Each participant had a computer account on the Auburn University Division of Computing (DUC).

Mr. Daniel MacDougall, COSAM Information Technology Specialist, taught participants how to use computers for communication and the Internet and how to use databases, word processors, and spreadsheets on our university network.

4. Orientation

Before the program began, Dr. Overtoun Jenda, Summer Bridge Program Director, held training sessions for Summer Bridge Counselors. Student and parent orientation was held on the first day of the program. Dr. Jenda and Mrs. Holland conducted weekly orientation sessions in which participants and counselors participated in the discussion.

5. Fall Registrations and Camp War Eagle

Participants attended Camp War Eagle on July 16–18, 2003 during the Summer Bridge Program. Participants registered for the Fall Semester at Camp War Eagle.

6. Recreation

During free time, participants worked out in the weight and fitness rooms and played tennis and basketball at the Student Activities Center, or played games at the dorm. They also attended on-campus movies. Weekend recreational activities included a trip to a local mall, an afternoon watching a movie at a local theater, and bowling.

X. STUDENT ASSESSMENT

At the end of the program, participants were asked to evaluate the program. The evaluation results and comments from the questionnaire (see Appendix V) will be used to make necessary adjustments and improvements in future Summer Bridge Programs.

Gaining practical information about Auburn University, providing a positive experience, and preparing students academically continue to receive the highest scores (3.9, 3.8, and 3.7 out of a possible 4.00 respectively). Counselors were next with a score of 3.6. Academic courses, Field trips, and afternoon sessions conducted by the Office of Student Affairs followed with a score of 3.3 each. Study workshops had a score of 3.2. It is interesting to note that providing a better mix (9 in total) of field trips resulted into the highest score the Field trips has ever had. Academic courses and study workshops scored slightly lower than in previous years. This was expected as we continue to make

the Bridge courses more challenging and rigorous to keep in line with the increase in the quality of freshmen taking courses in COSAM.

XI. AWARDS LUNCHEON

An awards luncheon was held at the end of the program on Friday, August 1, 2003. The ceremony was attended by Charles Barkley, TaShawna Thomas, '97 Summer Bridge Participant, '01 Auburn Graduate and University of South Alabama Medical School Student; Dr. Johnny Green, Special Assistant to the Provost; Dr. Stewart Schneller, Dean of College of Sciences and Mathematics (COSAM); Dr. Marie Wooten, Associate Dean for Research (COSAM), summer bridge faculty, staff, and parents.



Mr. Charles Barkley was the keynote speaker at the luncheon and his presentation was the highlight of the Bridge Program. Herman Turner, Bridge'00, introduced him. Mr. Barkley and Dr. Schneller presented the certificates. Bridge participants Mary Aboko-Cole, Zakiya Harris, Kimberly McGrue, and Vincent Williams spoke at the ceremony on behalf of the students while Kiersten Koen led the invocation.



Kiersten Koen receiving a certificate



Vincent Williams as Mr. Charles Barkley looks on

XII. CONCLUSION

The 2003 Auburn University Summer Bridge Program was again an outstanding success. The program reached its goal of providing students with academic enrichment and a positive Auburn experience.

Auburn University has continued to show a strong commitment to the Summer Bridge Program by providing fiscal support, reduced rates for room and board, textbooks for the courses and materials and supplies. In addition, numerous departments, centers, and facilities on campus supported the program by providing staff and services to the program. Parents also showed tremendous support for the program by transporting students to and from campus and providing pocket money to students for the four-week period. But for Auburn to continue to offer this crucial and worthwhile program, continued and increased extramural support is needed.

XIII. THANKS

The Bridge Program would like to thank Bell South Pioneers, Dow Chemical Foundation, Prudential Foundation, Uniroyal-Goodrich Tire Company, Mr. and Mrs. Michael Baker, Dr. and Mrs. Overtoun Jenda, Dr. James Ott, Mr. and Mrs. Philip Rowton, Mr. and Mrs. Sylvester Scott, Mr. Andrew Sforzini, Mr. and Mrs. Noel Skeete, Dr. C. Dent Williams, and Drs. Michael and Marie Wooten without whose support this program would not have been possible. The Program would also like to thank the following Auburn University sponsors: Mr. David Housel, Director of Athletics; Dr. David Wilson, Associate Provost and Vice President for University Outreach; Mr. Robert Ritenbaugh, Director of Auxiliary Services; and the College of Sciences and Mathematics (COSAM). The generous support that the Bridge Program received was invaluable in its development, implementation, and success.



Herman Turner shaking hands with Dean Schneller
with Dr. Johnny Green looking on