

College of Science and Mathematics
Office of Diversity and Multicultural Affairs

2011 Summer Bridge Program
Highlights



MAKING A WORLD
OF DIFFERENCE



COLLEGE OF SCIENCES
AND MATHEMATICS

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Highlights of Summer Bridge 2011

Twenty pre-college students were selected to participate in Summer Bridge 2011, COSAM's outstanding academic enrichment and stimulating learning experience. The program has served over 400 minority students during a total of 15 summers. The students participated in a four-week intensive program that includes: non-credit instruction of mathematics and chemistry courses; educational development of study skills, time management and financial literacy; and enhancement of social skills. The Summer Bridge program concluded with the 15th Annual Awards Luncheon on June 30, 2011.



Summer Bridge students (a) working in Success Strategies summer workshops (Shakeer Abdullah, instructor) (b) engaging in self-confidence and leadership development activities – Saturday Science Session at the Boys and Girls Club of Lee County (Alexis McMillan, SBP participant) (c) Harrison School of Pharmacy visit (Dr. Charles Woosley, presenter) (d) East Alabama Medical Center visit (Barbara Osterrieder, presenter).

Although many of the twenty pre-freshmen were graduates of under-served and under-resourced schools and/or first-generation college students, they were diligent in completing their assignments, modeled appropriate behaviors, worked hard to enhance time management and leadership skills, embraced service learning, explored alternative careers and had fun as they explored the AU campus, bonded with each other and developed expanded academic and social networks.

The 15th Annual Awards Luncheon was held on June 30, 2011 at the Hotel at Auburn University and Dixon Conference Center. Dr. Charles Savrda, Interim Dean of COSAM, presided over the luncheon and introduced the Awards Luncheon speaker, Dr. Michael B. Williams, a cardiologist and president of Auburn Cardiovascular, P.C. in Auburn, Alabama. Dr. Williams shared inspirational moments from his life and challenged Summer Bridge participants to strive to achieve their highest potential. We are exceedingly grateful to Dr. Williams and his wife, Dr. Patricia Wade Williams, for their support and commitment to Summer Bridge. The program included an invocation by Quenton Mosley. Three Summer Bridge participants, Alexis McMillan, Travena Hawkins, and Rickney Hunter, shared their Summer Bridge experience and all participants were given certificates. The Annual Awards Luncheon was attended by some of our supporters including, COSAM Leadership Council member and long-time Summer Bridge supporter, Mr. Charles Taylor, AT& T Pioneers, who not only provide fiscal and social support for our students, but also enrich the curriculum by providing instruction in the area of fiscal literacy, many University administrators, faculty, staff, and supportive parents and friends. We are greatly appreciative to all those that made contributions to make the 2011 Summer Bridge Program a success.



Summer Bridge Program Luncheon and AT&T Pioneers (a) Dr. Michael B. Williams, Keynote Speaker, COSAM 15th Annual Awards Luncheon. Interim Dean, Charles Savrda presenting Keona Massie (b) and (c) Quenton Mosley with certificate (d) Dr. Velma B. Richardson honored for service and (e) AT&T Pioneers presentation.

The COSAM Summer Bridge Program is one of our most successful strategies to attract, retain and empower minority undergraduates for careers in the sciences, mathematics and professional careers. Notably, the COSAM Summer Bridge Program continues to serve as the model for other programs.

COSAM Summer Bridge continues to be a highly effective retention tool as all of the 2011 participants returned to Auburn for fall term enrollment with nineteen (19) enrolling in COSAM curricula and one (1) enrolling in pre-Engineering. Attendees came from Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Mississippi, and South Carolina. The average GPA was 3.57 with an average ACT of 24.75. Student majors for the fall included Biomedical Sciences, Molecular Biology, Chemistry, and Geology with concentration interests in Pre-Pharmacy, Pre-Dentistry, Pre-Veterinary Medicine, and Pre-Medicine. The official class picture of the 2011 participants, counselors and staff is presented in Figure 8. The fourteen females and six males who participated in our math and science living and learning community benefited from the experiences of successful upperclassmen role models and former Bridge participants: Jessica Andry, Demetrius Barker, LaDaria Hartley, Michael Narcisse-Cousar, and Victoria Nwadiogbu.



2011 Summer Bridge Program Participants, Counselors and Staff.