

## **Garden State LSAMP Affiliation with Essex County College**

The Garden State –LSAMP supports the mission of creating new knowledge, providing top-quality education for its students and sharing academic and intellectual resources with LSAMP student cohorts on an alliance wide basis. The GS-LSAMP takes pride in the richness of its diversity and nurturing atmosphere, which encourages the students of Essex County College (ECC) to transfer to a 4 year institution in the alliance, and excel. The GS-LSAMP has maintained this commitment to ECC by expanding both programmatic and scholarship opportunities to the ECC students.

## **Research Assistantships**

ECC LSAMP Scholars are invited to monthly academic workshops, STEM activities, STEM seminar lecture series and opportunities to conduct research during the academic year and summer sessions. Annually, 25 ECC students have participated in summer internships in one of the 8 alliance 4-year institutions. In addition, for the summer of 2012, a new ECC Scholar Research Program will be initiated for the top students to be involved in an advanced research experience at one of the alliance institutions on a competitive basis. Students who participate in these extramural experiences report on their activities to the ECC LSAMP Scholars during the fall semester to encourage other ECC students to be involved in LSAMP research opportunities.

## **Garden State-LSAMP Alliance Wide Conference & Activities**

ECC Garden State -LSAMP Math students were invited to participate in two major alliance wide conferences in April, 2011. On April 2, the Mathematical Association of America's New Jersey Section Meeting/Garden State Undergraduate Mathematics Conference was held at the Rutgers-Newark campus with 150 students in attendance. On April 12, the session "Life after College: What to do with a stem major" held at Rutgers-Newark campus with over 173 in attendance. These two conferences provided educational outlets for GS-LSAMP Scholars and their sponsoring faculty mentors, as well as to show ECC students a pathway to complete their bachelor's degrees within the GS-LSAMP. GS-LSAMP faculty have presented lectures at ECC on research and career opportunities. The upcoming LSAMP conference, "Moving on UP: Exploring Careers in Math, Computer Science and Physics" will be held on April 13<sup>th</sup> at Rutgers-Newark with ECC Scholars in attendance. Once a year, ECC students are invited to a weeklong faculty mentored retreat with the NJ Conservation along with all 9 Alliance wide LSAMP students.

## **Computer Assisted Academic Support**

The GS-LSAMP is piloting a supportive and engaging online academic enrichment with its **Academic Success Boot camp program**. Fifteen ECC LSAMP Scholars are participating in this program utilizing Pearson's "MyFoundationsLab", which includes an online mastery-based resource for assessing and remediating college- and career-readiness skills in reading, writing and mathematics. It is ideal for the typical ECC students who in addition to course work have work and family obligations. Once the ECC students complete a Path Builder diagnostic test, they receive a personalized set of content modules, which is overseen by a GS-LSAMP mentor. Mentor training and access codes provided by Rutgers University-Newark.