

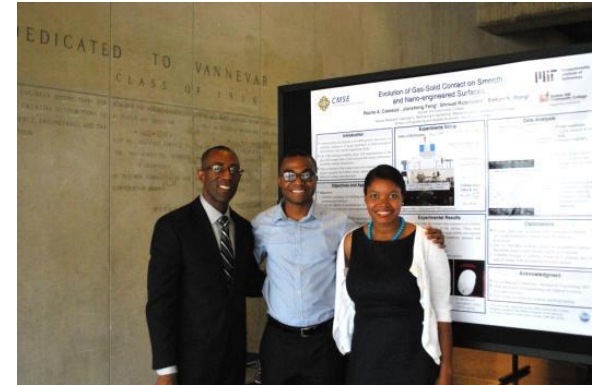
Broadening Participation through Community College Partnerships

MIT MRSEC

- Target an underrepresented undergraduate population
- Engage local community college students and faculty in cutting-edge materials research
- Forge ongoing partnerships with highly diverse local institutions

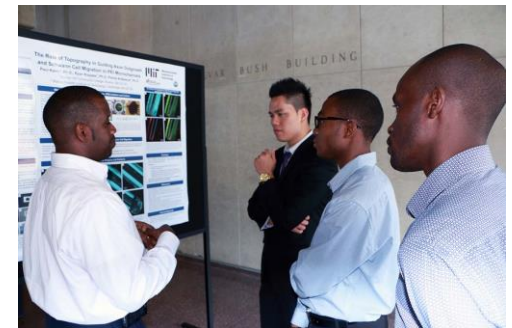
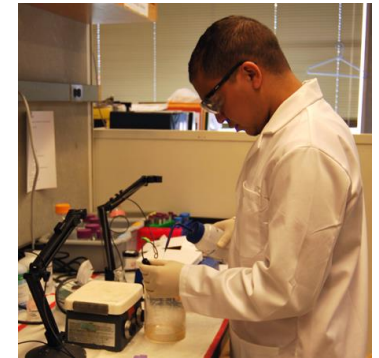
Program Features:

- 5-7 undergraduates from Roxbury Community College and Bunker Hill Community College (each >50% underrepresented student enrollment) participate in CMSE's REU program each summer
- 1 faculty member from each community college participates in CMSE's RET program each summer
- CMSE faculty present their research in classes and seminars at the community colleges
- Community college classes visit the SEFs at MIT
- Community college faculty utilize SEF equipment in their research



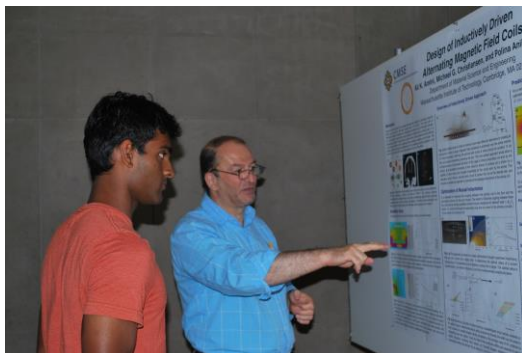
Program Objectives:

- provide students with research opportunities not available at their home institutions
- improve participants' research, technical, and presentation skills
- expose community college students to a broader range of career possibilities
- increase students' confidence in their ability to succeed in STEM careers, and encourage them to pursue further education and careers in science and engineering
- engage community college faculty in current MRSEC research
- forge continuing relationships with local community college faculty



Outcomes:

- Since the partnership's inception, 59 community college students have participated
 - 56% underrepresented minority; 44% women
 - 35 (59%) REU participants have enrolled in 4-year degrees; of those, 5 have continued to graduate study or medical school
 - 11 students are still enrolled in community college
 - 6 former participants are currently employed
 - status of the remaining students is unknown
- To date (since 2013) 8 community college faculty have been included in the RET program



Collaboration possibilities

- Joint meetings/seminars for community college REU students at local MRSECs