

# Multicultural Apprenticeship Program

## June 19-July 29, 2011

### Audience

Target Group: 20 high school students in 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grade from across the state.

### Funding

The Multicultural Apprenticeship Program (MAP) is jointly funded by the College of Agriculture & Natural Resources and the College of Veterinary Medicine.

### Objectives

MAP was designed to identify students interested in pursuing a degree in agriculture and natural resources at Michigan State University. The goals of MAP are to reach out to students who have had to overcome significant obstacles and exhibited leadership skills in the face of adversity, and who otherwise would not have the opportunity to participate in a challenging university preparatory program.

MAP was developed to accomplish multiple objectives:

- To encourage MAP participants to graduate from high school.
- To prepare high school youth for college.
- To expose students to majors and career opportunities in agriculture and natural resources and encourage them to pursue postsecondary education, preferably in an agriculture and natural resources.
- To assist in recruiting students who are not traditionally from an agricultural background.
- To ensure students understand the process of applying to a university.

### Description

MAP is a six-week research experience for high school students in 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grade who demonstrate academic talent and indicate a strong interest in science and/or in agriculture, natural resources, and related disciplines. MAP students are matched with CANR faculty members to work on a research project, where participants gain hands-on experience in laboratory and field research; work with computers and other "high tech" equipment; and interact with other students, faculty members, and professionals. Selection into the program is competitive. A committee which consists of faculty and staff from the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources selects MAP participants.

### Outcomes

Through MAP, students had the opportunity to experience college life while on campus for six weeks. Students had the opportunity to explore many of the exciting educational and career opportunities in agricultural and food sciences, natural resources and related fields. The students in MAP participated in field trips, leadership seminars, and a number of other educational, social, and cultural activities. Each student in MAP was provided with preparation materials for the ACT which is the standardized achievement examination for college admissions. At the completion of MAP each

student submitted a final paper and gave a 5-7 minute oral presentation on their experience in the program.

### CANR MAP Mentors and Department Participation

MAP participants work with MSU researchers from one of departments or schools within the college. The dedicated mentors from each department provide meaningful work experiences for the MAP students and make the program an effective tool for introducing students to the myriad of educational and career opportunities in the CANR at MSU.

### Quote:

Daryl Allen, a Manager for DuPont Crop Protection, summarizes his experience with MAP as follows:

*"MAP was the driving force that led me and a number of my peers to a career in agriculture. I was one of 50 students from Renaissance High School in Detroit that was selected to participate in the seven week 1985 MAP at Michigan State University... Without MAP, I would not have enjoyed the 20 years of employment within the industry."*

### Additional Significant Information

#### Pre-College ACT Collaboration:

During the last four years, the CANR pre-college program director has taken the lead on facilitating and collaborating with other colleges and departments to expose pre-college participants to the ACT. This collaboration allows pooling of funds to purchase an online American College Testing (ACT) component instead of each individual program purchasing ACT preparation materials.

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