

{April/2017} Monthly Project Update

Institution Name: California State University Northridge PR Award #: P031C160053

Project Title: Bridging the Gap: Enhancing AIMS2 for Student Success

Project Director: S. K. Ramesh

PD Phone: (818) 677-4501 PD Email: s.ramesh@csun.edu

1. Current activity/Progress/Successes/Expectations for the month.

The IPR was submitted on April 30, 2017. Six team meetings have been held since grant was announced in October 2016. The Project Website may be accessed at <http://www.ecs.csun.edu/aims2/>. Typically each meeting includes standing items that cover project updates from each of the project partners, upcoming issues, and the status of the project assessment and evaluation. Detailed agendas and presentations for each monthly meeting are accessible at <http://www.ecs.csun.edu/aims2/presentations.html>

The April meeting was held on April 20th. A schedule for the APR that is due at the end of the year was presented and discussed. The project assessment coordinator attended the AHSIE meeting in April along with representatives from the other funded CSU campuses. The system wide evaluation is underway and will look at overall metrics across all funded projects in the CSU system. See the IPR that was just submitted for more information.

Project Updates:

The selection of the CSUN freshman student cohort (20 students) has just been completed and an orientation is scheduled for May 10th. Faculty mentors http://www.ecs.csun.edu/aims2/faculty_mentors.html meet regularly with their students in the cohort to discuss their academic progress. Other activities for cohort students include projects in instructional labs, research projects with faculty, introduction to an appropriate professional society student chapter in the discipline and related activities – technical talks, presentations, student chapter activities etc., and participation in college wide events such as Tech Fest, and the Senior Design Project Showcase. The [showcase](#) was held on April 14, 2017. A list of [undergraduate research projects for summer 17](#) has been developed and students are being recruited to work on the projects. The Math workshops for the summer have been scheduled from June 26- August 2. We are anticipating covering incoming freshmen students in STEM disciplines to improve their math proficiency. In addition a study skills /orientation workshop (duration of 1 Week) is scheduled from June 19-22 for incoming freshman students in the college. These workshops are designed to improve retention and time to graduation for students,

Pierce College has hired physics counselors and tutors and established a central web site for expanded STEM Counseling. Students from Pierce will also be participating in the summer research projects at CSUN. The cohort at Moorpark College has been meeting every other Friday. Activities include tutoring and mentoring. They have also hosted a guest speaker and a tour of JPL that was attended by 37 students. At the College of the Canyons, students have been actively participating in tutoring sessions. Students from Glendale Community College are attending the SHPE conference in San Diego (Apr 20-23). One of their AIMS students, Enrique Cernasis is working on getting an internship with JPL this summer. He was mentioned in the student newspaper of Glendale Community College. Link for more information about his background and goals.

<http://elvaq.com/features/2017/04/06/engineering-student-interns-at-nasa/#photo>

2. Any challenges/Issues to report?

None

3. The program has been nominated for a 2017 Excelencia in Education award in the Bacccalaureate category. The PI has submitted the program profile for review