

## CONFERENCES ATTENDED

SEP students have consistently performed well at conferences and symposiums, including the following:

- Houston-Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Student Research Conference
- New York City Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Urban University Conference
- Baylor College of Medicine – Houston Premedical Academy Research Symposium
- Florida-Georgia Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation in Science, Engineering, and Mathematics Career Expo
- Intercultural Cancer Council Symposium on Minorities, the Medically Underserved, and Cancer Research Education for Texas Road Show
- Sigma Xi Student Research Conference
- EMERGE Conference (Atlanta, Georgia)

**My experience in the program has provided me with the opportunity to build strong study habits by learning to think critically while working in groups.**

## ABOUT THE COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCES AND MATHEMATICS

The College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics (NSM) has achieved national and international acclaim for the high quality and standards of its programs. NSM at the University of Houston seeks to provide a rich learning environment in which students can pursue programs of higher education that will advance their chosen career objectives and motivate them to continue to learn and grow intellectually throughout their lives.

**I have acquired valuable advice in order to graduate in four years and pursue my graduate and professional aspirations.**

The College offers bachelor's degrees in the departments of Biology and Biochemistry, Chemistry, Computer Science, Geosciences, Mathematics, and Physics.

## ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON

The University of Houston, the state's premier urban teaching and research institution, stands at the forefront of education, research, and service. The largest and most comprehensive component of the University of Houston System, UH is a leader in the state-assisted system of higher education in Texas. Our campus serves more than 35,000 students in 13 colleges and offers degrees in over 300 fields of study at the undergraduate, graduate, and professional levels. More than 40 centers and institutes relevant to local, state, and national priorities operate within the university's structure.

The dramatic growth of the Houston community has been paralleled by the emergence of the University of Houston as a major education and research institution. Whether it is valuable research generated by an institute or laboratory, or the contributions of UH cultural arts programs to the Houston arts scene, the university is positioned to lead Houston in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

# Scholar Enrichment Program

UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON

College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics

# Scholar Enrichment Program

## The College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics

Mathematics at the University of Houston implemented the Scholar Enrichment Program (SEP) in the fall semester of 1992 for the academic enhancement and retention of undergraduate students. Based on the Collaborative Learning Model, SEP's hallmark is the creation of a learning community for students in high-risk classes, with workshops designed to enhance learning and problem-solving skills. SEP has produced higher retention rates and fewer withdrawals or failures, and its students consistently earn higher grades as a group than do non-SEP students. Also, participants in SEP workshops tend to graduate in significantly higher percentages.

**My high school did not prepare me for college. Therefore, I had a hard time adjusting to college. If it had not been for the workshops and the community of staff and friends, graduating would not have been possible.**

Special workshops—with a small class size—support a diverse group of students enrolled in "gateway" science and mathematics courses such as calculus, chemistry, and physics. Students are encouraged to collaborate in small groups as they work on daily assignments, challenging supplemental worksheets, and mock exams. SEP provides a relaxed atmosphere in a supportive environment of peers in addition to experienced instructors who take a special interest in the success of their students.

Integrated into these work sessions are strategies on how to learn, what to learn, note taking, test preparation, and other elements essential for success. Moreover, the workshop program has expanded to include key upper-division courses in some majors.

**This is a great program. Tutors and facilitators are a very important part of this organization. Students who want to do well can because there are people who care about them.**

Students are drawn to SEP in part because of the community atmosphere that is created. SEP is designed to provide the elements identified as critical for student success, especially at large, nonresidential urban universities. These elements, such as collaborative learning groups, peer counseling, and providing a "home base," have one focus: to build a meaningful student community within an academic structure.

**The program has contributed immensely to my success here, especially in the calculus workshops where I scored in the highest percentile of my class.**

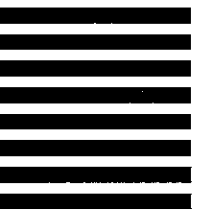
### WHO CAN JOIN SEP?

Students admitted into SEP are primarily natural sciences, mathematics, and engineering majors; but SEP is open to all majors enrolled in STEM (science, technology, engineering, or mathematics) courses.

**BUSINESS REPLY MAIL**  
FIRST-CLASS MAIL PERMIT NO. 1821 HOUSTON TX

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON  
PO BOX 3975  
HOUSTON TX 77253-9874



NO POSTAGE  
NECESSARY  
IF MAILED  
IN THE  
UNITED STATES

