Graduate Education Conference

1 February 2013
American Center for Physics

APS Bridge Program

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American Physical Society
Director of Education and Diversity
Underrepresented Minority Undergraduate Majors

US College-Age Underrepresented Minority Population

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Engineering
- Math & Stats
- Physics
- Earth Sciences

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<th>Year</th>
<th>Biology</th>
<th>Chemistry</th>
<th>Engineering</th>
<th>Math &amp; Stats</th>
<th>Physics</th>
<th>Earth Sciences</th>
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URM Physics PhDs to Minority Population

52 PhDs awarded to minorities in 2010

US College-age minority population

Sources: IPEDS Completion survey by race, US Census
Physics Degrees Awarded to Underrepresented Minorities

Bachelor's Degrees

- ~400 degrees

Doctoral Degrees

- ~40 degrees
- ~30 more PhDs

Source: IPEDS, US Census
APS Bridge Program: Key Components

• Recruiting through graduate programs across the US (now 100+ institutions, representing 70% of all doctoral students)

• Spend 1-2 years in a “Bridging program”
  • Take advanced UG or entry-level graduate coursework
  • Graduate-level research
  • Demonstrate ability to do independent research and succeed in graduate-level coursework
  • Receive coaching on preparing graduate admissions package (letters, GRE, statements)
  • Accepted into doctoral program

• Receive mentoring in doctoral program (especially in first years)
• Research into barriers; disseminate successful program elements
• Build a national coalition of departments committed to improving participation
GRE Quantitative Scores

Source: ETS, "Factors that can influence performance on the GRE General Test 2006-2007"

GRE Quantitative scores for US Citizens

www.APSBridgeProgram.org

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