Supporting Scholarly Careers of Underrepresented Faculty

Presented by
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Barriers to Success for STEM Women of Color and Other Women Faculty at HBCUs

- Stereotypes based on ethnicity and gender (and the intersection)
- Women in STEM are often not considered as professionally equal to men in STEM
- Opportunities are often passed around only in certain circles
- Not having mentors, coaches, advocates, and senior faculty who care about the careers of woman faculty
- Few if any opportunities to become a part of a support community within the department or on campus
- Little appreciation that work life balance is much more often a challenge for women than for men
- Policies (recruitment, hiring, retention, tenure and promotion, and tenure clock) are not gender or race neutral policies

Barriers

As a result of these barriers (and others) female faculty, and especially minority female faculty, are not tightly integrated into the formal and informal social structures of the Academy, especially in STEM disciplines.

Supporting the Scholarly Careers of JSU STEM Women

> JSU ADVANCE

NSF ADVANCE Program

The goal of the NSF ADVANCE program is to develop systemic approaches to increase the representation and advancement of women in academic science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) careers, thereby contributing to the development of a more diverse science and engineering workforce."

The following types of projects are supported:

- Institutional Transformation (IT)
- Institutional Transformation Catalyst (IT-Catalyst)
- Partnerships for Adaptation, Implementation, and Dissemination (PAID)

JSU ADVANCE Goals and Objectives

- To advance the careers of all female faculty in the STEM and SBS disciplines at JSU
- To foster and sustain a climate and culture which seeks the inclusion of all faculty regardless of gender, race, and other target characteristics at the university and in the department
- To inform the larger academic community about the unique challenges of women in general and women of color in particular at HBCUs

JSU ADVANCE Initiatives

Summer Writing Retreat - Designed to Support the Scholarly Careers of Female Faculty



- Produce high quality scholarly products journal articles, other refereed publications, book chapters, and proposals
- Develop an intellectual support circle for scholarly writing
- Cultivate a psychology of success about scholarly productivity
- Develop a pattern for consistent writing despite daily demands and responsibilities

Summer Writing Retreat Outcomes

20 articles submitted refereed journals with 8 published 14 presentations at national/international conferences

8 proposals submitted with 3 funded 2 book manuscripts





JSU ADVANCE Initiatives

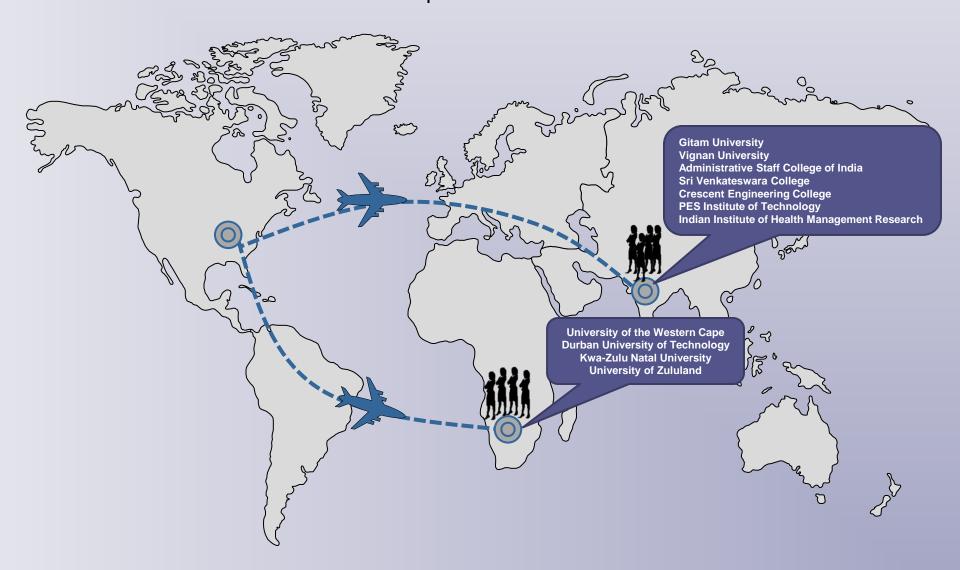
International Visibility

- Assist STEM female faculty to establish visibility and promote a national and international reputation through international group travel
- Support STEM female faculty to travel to national and international conferences in their areas of research

Outcomes

- Over 30 presentations at international institutions
- 5 international presentations, workshops
- Joint international course offered with South Africa
- Ongoing collaboration with International Women in Science Initiatives

India | South Africa



Future Directions

- Multidisciplinary project teams for international travel
- International peer mentor relationships via joint research collaborations
- Expanded international locales for collaboration (based on discipline interest)

Institutionalization of international travel opportunities for STEM women faculty



Bias Awareness Training - STEM Women of Color

The Academic Woman: Balancing Expectations, Responsibilities, and Biases

- Sessions for female faculty in STEM organized around relationship status to discuss impact on experience
- Sessions for the partners of academic women to discuss work/life balance and bias in the workplace

	Single Women	Partnered Women
Never participated in similar conversations before	60%	83%
Did you find these conversations helpful?	89%	89%
Did you initially want to hold these conversations?	30%	50%
After workshop, do you want similar conversations?	89%	100%

> Results: For the first time, many STEM women engaged in discussions surrounding gender discrimination in the workplace and implications on work/life balance.

JSU STEM Women Leadership Changes

Position	Year of Appointment	STEM Discipline
President	2011	Engineering
Vice President for Information Technology	2012	Computer Science
Vice President for Research (Interim)	2013	Computer Science
Department Chair	2012	Political Science
Department Chair (Interim)	2013	Physics
Department Chair (Interim)	2012	Psychology
Center Director (Interim)	2012	Psychology

Supporting the Scholarly Careers of All JSU Faculty

> JSU Academy for Research and Scholarly Engagement

JSU Academy for Research and Scholarly Engagement - Objectives

- Enhance the scholarly careers of all faculty members
- Increase interaction with Federal agencies
- Increase collaborations across disciplines
- Provide access to coaches for research and writing guidance



Develop a highly energized community of scholars

Academy Design

- Provides Academic Year Program
 - Curriculum includes
 - Workshops
 - Writing Sessions/Retreats
 - Individual Coaching
 - Visits to Funding Agencies
- Participant Expectations
 - Apply and submit proposals for evaluation and selection
 - Commit to develop and submit Research and Scholarly Agenda
 - Fully participate in all Workshops and Meetings
 - Work with scholars across multiple disciplines and career levels
 - Submit bi-monthly assignments to coaches
 - Submit competitive proposal in response to a Request for Proposals



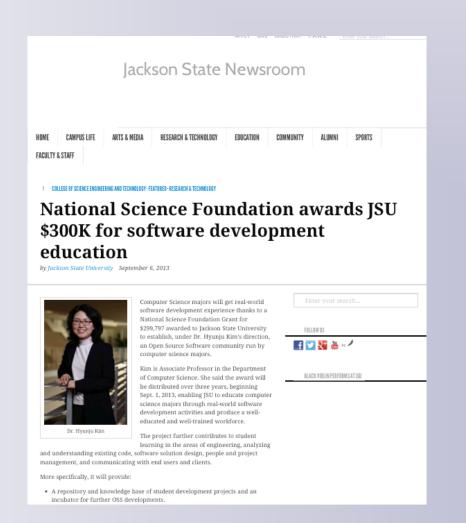
Academy Outcomes and Accomplishments

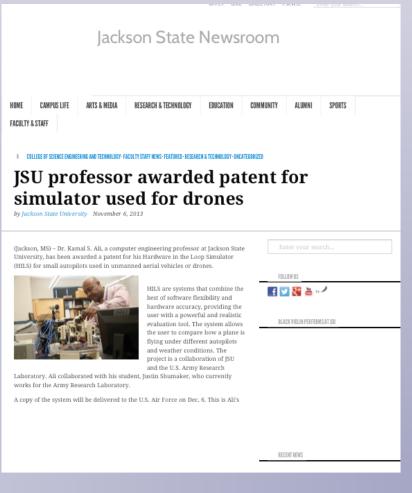
• To increase:

- ✓ Number of faculty members submitting research grants as PIs
- ✓ Number of proposals submitted
- ✓ Funding rate
- ✓ Funding total received from competitive grant proposals
- To identify emerging researchers who can successfully recognize and develop solutions to multidisciplinary problems
- To create a community of multidisciplinary scholars



Academy Community Accomplishments





Supporting the Scholarly Careers of STEM Women @ JSU Supporting the Scholarly Careers of All JSU Faculty Supporting the Scholarly Careers of Underrepresented Faculty Internationally

What Is Left to Do?

While high-level and some mid-level administrators and many faculty peers understand and are supportive of *Institutional Transformation*, some Individuals still do not understand what their role and responsibilities are to promoting the *change* necessary for

Institutional Transformation.

Recommendations for Institutions to Support Scholarly Careers of Underrepresented Faculty

- 1. Institutions must recognize that any sustainable solution(s) must be community-based.
- 2. Institutional Policies must be reviewed and modified to ensure equity, diversity, and inclusion by looking beyond the traditional approaches.
- 3. Dialogue (at times difficult) must be held with all members of the community and other constituents.
- 4. Institutions and individuals must determine the issues surrounding the perceptions, realities, and impact of bias.
- 5. Institutions and all individuals must acknowledge the value of diversity and be held accountable for change.
- 6. Institutions must commit and hold themselves accountable for the continuous professional advancement for women and underrepresented minority faculty.
- 7. Institutions should seek to create a community of (diverse) scholars at various career points.

Thank You!

Contact Information

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