Calendar of Events:

Saturday Academy Session I
September 27, 2003
October 4, 2003
October 11, 2003
October 18, 2003

Leadership Retreat
October 3-4, 2003

OPT-ED Alliance Day
November 21, 2003

Saturday Academy Session II
January 10, 2004
January 17, 2004
January 24, 2004
January 31, 2004

Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration
January 17, 2004

CIAA High School Day
February 26, 2004

Saturday Academy Session III
March 6, 2004
March 13, 2004
March 20, 2004
March 27, 2004

Expanding Your Horizon for Seventh Grade Girls
March 9, 2004

NC-MSEN DAY
Local School Testing
February 2 – 27, 2004

Regional NC-MSEN Day
March 27, 2004

State NC-MSEN Day at Fayetteville State University
May 15, 2004

Awards Day
May 22, 2004

Summer Programs – MSSA & HSSA
June 14 – July 2, 2004

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Saturday Academy – Session I and II

“Appreciating Diversity in Math and Science for Today and Tomorrow.”

Session I

Two-hundred twenty (228) students in grades 7 to 12 (185 middle school students and 43 high school students) were enrolled. The middle grades students attended a rotation of the three core courses – Mathematics, Science, and Career Awareness/Communications. The high school students attended a rotation of two core courses in Saturday Academy – Mathematics/Science and Communication/Careers.

Some of the highlights were using origami to make various polygons, extracting DNA from bananas, strawberries and kiwi, participating in the interactive Barn Owl Carolina Biological website - http://www.carolina.com/owls/form.asp, and participating in job interviews.

The high school students worked on bridge and tower building. In the communications/careers class, the primary focus was on Leadership skills – listening, thinking, speaking and team building.

Carolina Blue & You (UNC Chapel Hill undergraduate students) spoke to the high students about their experiences in college and their decisions that led them to attend UNC Chapel Hill.

Session II

Students in grades 6 to 12 (362 middle school and 92 high school) registered for Session Two. Middle and high school students continue to be exposed to hands-on and inquiry based activities. The special activities planned for this session were Horizon Research Inc., REACH group and Epidemiology Department.

The Horizon Research, Inc. (HRI) is a local educational research company that develops science tests. Seventh (7th) and 8th grade students participated in this study by taking science tests and discussing whether the questions being asked are what the researchers think they are asking.

The REACH group from School of Public Health (UNC Chapel Hill) spoke to the 7th and 8th grade students about careers and opportunities in the Public Health field. They focused on how nutrition, environment and diseases are important in the public health field.

Graduate students in the Epidemiology Department spoke to the high school students about the field and careers in epidemiology. The high school students participated in a hands-on activity and the focus was on obesity.
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
Birthday Celebration

“Re-ignite the Dream”

The program opened with Hillside High School Pre-College student Derek Walker expressing what Re-igniting the dream meant to him. Pre-College students gave speeches, recited poetry, performed a skit and danced. The Mistress of Ceremony was Tamara Brock (nursing graduate of UNC Chapel Hill and former Pre-College staff member). All of the students participating in the program did an excellent job and were well received. They also received a token for participating.

The guest speaker for the Celebration was Gregory J. Holden, Assistant Equal Opportunity Officer at North Carolina State University, Assistant Vice-Provost and Director of ADA and Affirmative Action Program. He spoke about remembering the accomplishments of the past and remembering whose shoulders we stand on. He challenged students to become the shoulders of the future. He complimented his speech with African Drummer, Mr. Wade Howell.

Second Annual OPT-ED Alliance Day

Fifteen (15) students and 4 chaperones attended the second annual OPT-Ed Alliance Day conference at NCSU on November 21, 2003. OPT-ED Alliance Day also provides the platform for students to showcase their research. The opening speaker, Dr. Roosevelt Y. Johnson, spoke to the students and guest about three main ideas - to be excited about whatever you are doing; to be prepared, and to claim your destiny.

There were several concurrent workshops about various aspects of college preparation for the students. There was a panel discussion by graduate students that shared their experiences and allowed students/guests to ask questions. OPT-ED Alliance Day also provides the platform for students to showcase their research. The following UNC Chapel Pre-College students did an outstanding job and presented their research –

\textbf{Kizzmekia Corbett (Orange High School), Identification and Quantitation of O^6 – Methyl-2’-deoxyguanosine in the DNA of Mice Treated with Azoxymethane,}

\textbf{Vicki D. Johnson (UNC Chapel Hill Undergraduate Student and Pre-College Assistant, Former Pre-College Student), Is the United States a Healthy Place? A Look at exercise, Weight, Diet, Smoking and Blood Pressure,}

\textbf{Emily Nwakpuda (Hillside High School), The Effects of Various Conditions on the Formation and Stability of Guanosine and Guanosine 5’ Monophosphate Gels (Two Year Study)}

NC-MSEN Pre-College Program/SECME Parent workshop/Mousetrap Car Competition – March 27, 2004

NC-MSEN Pre-College Program/SECME will sponsor a parent workshop with Ramona Bryant SECME Program Assistant, Empowering Parents Program (EP) Coordinator and host a Mousetrap Car competition for Saturday Academy Students and Durham Public School Pre-College Academy students on March 27, 2004 during Saturday Academy Session III. Program TBA.