College Reach-Out Program & Scholars Club

2009 Summer Residential
This year the Summer Residential Program hosted, by the College Reach Out and Scholars Programs, was a success. Student participants completed an intense two-week Summer SAT, Applied Math, Engineering and College Planning Residential Program on the FGCU campus June 14 to June 26. The program represented a joint venture with Student Support Services and Outreach Programs, the FGCU School of Engineering and the Florida Education Fund.

Thirty-nine high school students from Collier, Hendry, Glades, and Lee counties participated in the summer residential program. FGCU faculty member Claude Villiers assisted with use of the new engineering facilities in the Holmes Engineering Building and had several other professors give presentations on all the opportunities available through the engineering fields.

During the program, 70 percent of the participating students increased their scores on the practice SAT, all rising seniors applied to three colleges or universities, and learned the importance of college planning in relation to career choices. The students were introduced to opportunities in engineering, and how to apply math in experiments and research to engineering projects. Cathy Doyle commented that, “the FGCU staff members dedicated all their efforts to creating a summer program that would challenge the participants academically and they met the challenge and grew from the experience.”

In addition to the residential experience, summer participants were taken on a three-day college tour of Southeast Florida to the Miami Historical Museum, the University of Miami, Miami-Dade Community College, Florida International University, and Florida Atlantic University.

In partnership with The Florida Education Fund, the Office of Outreach Programs received a grant from The College Board to assist with financing this intense two-week high school residential experience, in addition to the support from Florida Gulf Coast University and the Hendry County Migrant Program.
To provide some much needed respite from the academic rigor of the two week program, our Summer Residential participants traveled to Dade County during the second weekend of the camp. The three day, two night trip included campus tours of Florida Atlantic University, Florida International University, Miami-Dade Community College, and the University of Miami, as well as a visit to the Historical Museum of South Florida, and Water Rapids (a water park).
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“I enjoyed meeting and working with you all. I hope that you all are successful in everything you pursue.”

-Rebecca

“Hey everyone, I’m glad we spent the summer together. I know I made some of you laugh and some of you mad but, I’m happy that we met. My relationship with all of you made me feel like a kid again! Work hard, or I’ll find you and make you!”

-Raul

“I had a great time with you all. Always remember that you can do anything you put your mind to!”

-Christine

“It was awesome working with and getting to know each of you. Never discount your ability to succeed; you’ve all got what it takes. Act deliberately and with honor.”

-Mike