

**California State University
African American Initiative**

**A Dream Deferred:
The Future of African American Education**

Presentation at the
College Board Diversity Conference
April 27, 2012

Presentation Team

- **Dr. Tony Ross**, Vice President for Student Affairs, CSU Los Angeles
- **Dr. Jacqueline Mimms**, Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management, CSU Bakersfield
- **Dr. Barbara Young**, CSU-AAI Consultant, CSU Los Angeles
- **Mr. Jorge Haynes**, Senior Director, External Relations, CSU Chancellor's Office

In the beginning...

❖ **Bishop Charles Blake**

West Angeles Church of God in Christ, Los Angeles

❖ **Reverend J. Alfred Smith**

Allen Temple Baptist Church, Oakland



**Chancellor Charles B. Reed, President James Rosser, CSU Los Angeles
President Horace Mitchell, CSU Bakersfield**

CSU African American Initiative (CSU-AAI)

Purpose and Goal

The CSU-AAI is a partnership with approximately 100 California churches serving predominantly African American congregations. It began in 2005 with the goal to increase college preparation and to improve college access and graduation rates for African American students.

It Takes a Village...

- Church pastors emphasize the importance of students becoming academically prepared for college.
- Church pastors emphasize the importance of going to college.
- Church pastors provide a venue for CSU professionals to speak to students and parents about what they need to do to become eligible for a CSU.



Making a Difference...

Shaping the Future of African American Students

- Closing the Achievement Gap
- Preparing students to meet the increasing demand for workers with postsecondary education
- Exposing students to and preparing them for STEM and health care careers

Making a Difference... Shaping Students' Lives

- Income is one of the biggest predictors of one's health outcomes.
- Education is strongly linked to income.
- Disparities in educational achievement are closely linked to disparities in health.

CSU African American Initiative Main Programs

➤ Super
Sunday at
Churches

➤ Train-the-
Trainer

➤ Super
Saturday
College
Fairs

➤ Educational
Forums

➤ Summer
Algebra
Institutes

➤ Parent
Workshops

CSU African American Initiative Main Programs

Super Sunday

**Delivering from
the pulpit a
message about
the value of
higher education.**

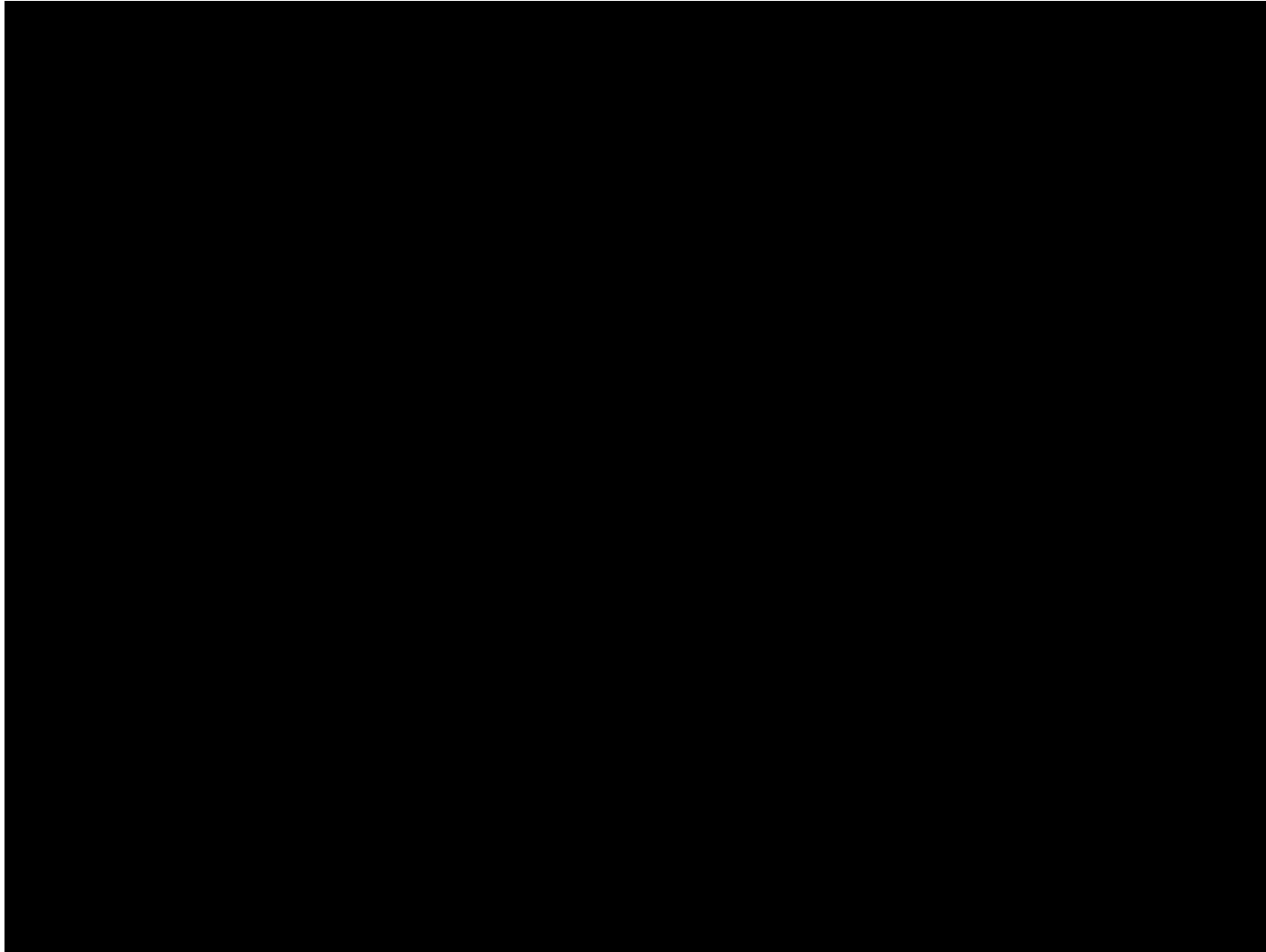


100 Churches

**48 cities in
Northern,
Central and
Southern
California**

CSU Super Sunday





Video Compilation of 2011 Events at Various Churches
Click the black box to play!

CSU African American Initiative Main Programs

Super Saturday College Fair

**Attended by 1,400
students, parents
and mentors**



Workshops:

**How to pay for
college**

**How to prepare
for college**

**The freshman
experience**

CSU African American Initiative Main Programs

Summer Algebra Institutes

**Students gain their
confidence in
resolving math and
algebra problems.**



**Offered at
churches in:
Bakersfield
Carson
Fairfield
Fresno
Irvine
Inglewood
Norwalk
Los Angeles
Sacramento
San Bernardino
San Francisco**

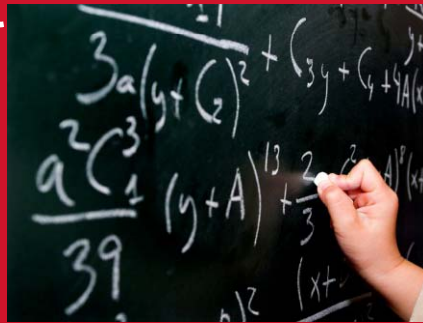
CSU African American Initiative - Main Programs

CSU Summer Algebra Institute - A Culturally-Based Math Curriculum Development Project

- Jacqueline Mimms, Ph.D., CSUB, Principal Investigator
- Rehema Gray, Ph.D., CSUN, Project Coordinator
- Kyndall “Astenu” Brown, Ph.D., UCLA Math Professor
- Winston Doby, Ph.D., UCLA Consultant (*In Memoriam*)

CSU Summer Algebra Institutes – Shaping Students' Lives Through Math Education

Stanford and University of Chicago scholars recently reported that



- ***“Math success is the best predictor of college success.”***

Published by the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER)

Shaping Students' Lives Through Math Education...

Project Purpose and Goal

- To mobilize community partnerships and explore the efficacy of a culturally-based math curriculum to foster high academic achievement and college readiness among African American students.
- To prepare students for pre-algebra and Algebra I course work using instructional approaches and curricula modules that are aligned to California State Standards, STAR-California Standards Test, and the California High School Exit Exam.
- Personalize math so that African American students can visualize their cultural heritage connected to math and science.

Shaping Students' Lives Through Math Education ...

Summer Algebra Institutes

- Teacher Based
- Technology Based
- Alignment with STEM Industry Councils
- Assessment and Year-Round Student Engagement
- Church Site Ownership of Institutes



Shaping Students' Lives Through Math Education...

- Targets African American middle school (6th-8th grade) students and low performing 9th grade high school students.
- Students are selected through an application process (including letter of recommendation from counselor, teacher or school administrator).
- 87% of our students are African American; almost 50% are male.



Desired Student Outcomes

Summer Algebra Institute Performance

1. Student Achievement
 - * Increased self-confidence for high achievement
 - * Increased grade level math proficiency
2. 95% of students receive a “B” or better in Algebra 1
3. College Prep Track



It Only Takes a Spark

Summer Algebra Institute

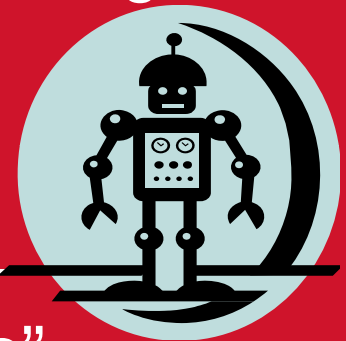
- Provides students with field trips and guest speakers.
- Provides opportunities to explore real world application of math and science.
- Exposes students to professionals of color in STEM and health related fields.



It Only Takes a Spark...

Campus Tours and Activities:

- Cal Maritime – Math Overview and Simulator Experience
- CSU Bakersfield – Computer and Electrical Engineering and Computer Science; STEM and Robotics
- CSU East Bay - Gates Science Fair
- CSU Long Beach, Pomona, and Dominguez Hills – motivational speakers and **“How to Get to College”** seminars














Students Nurtured and Impacted

Since 2007, we have served 1364 African American students

<u>Year</u>	<u>Number of Students</u>	<u>Faith-Based Organizations</u>
2007	320	8
2008	194	11
2009	271	10
2010	261	8
2011	318	10

SAI Professional Development in Action



-  **Christ Our Redeemer**
46 Maxwell Irvine, CA 92618
-  **Compassion Christian Center**
1030 4th Street Bakersfield, CA 93304
-  **Faithful Central Church**
333 West Florence Inglewood, CA 90301
-  **Glory Christian Fellowship**
225 Torrance Boulevard, Bldg. #20793 Carson, CA 90745
-  **Living Word**
10337 De Soto Boulevard Chatsworth, CA 91311
-  **Providence Baptist Church**
1601 McKinnon Avenue San Francisco, CA 94124
-  **Saint John Missionary Baptist Church**
1401 East Brundage Lane Bakersfield, CA 93307
-  **Saint Paul Missionary Baptist Church**
3996 14th Avenue Sacramento, CA 95820
-  **Saint Stephen CME Church**
2301 Union Avenue Fairfield, CA 94533
-  **Temple Learning Center**
1777 W. Baseline Avenue San Bernardino, CA 92411
-  **West Angeles Church of Christ**
3045 S. Crenshaw Boulevard Los Angeles, CA 90016



It Only Takes a Spark...

- We try to inspire, motivate and get students interested in science and math (i.e., create a vision for what they can do).
- We help students learn about STEM and health-related fields, encourage them to explore these fields, provide activities to demonstrate how exciting these fields can be through workshops and activities at college and university campuses.



It Only Takes a Spark...

Deacon John Wilson III, education and enrichment director at West Angeles Church –



“Students have said that they have learned more in a week or two from this program, than they learned during an entire year of a math class at school.”

It Only Takes a Spark...

Lora Kermode
(SAI instructor)

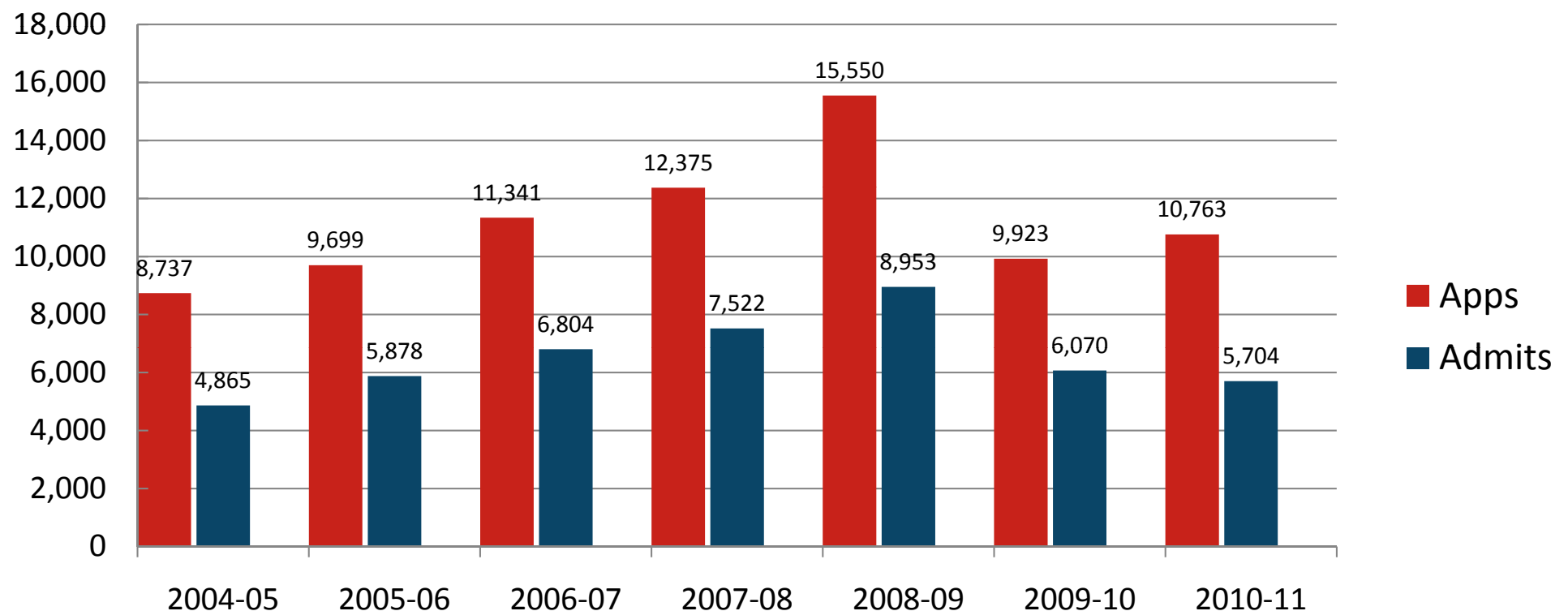
“Algebra can be intimidating for students. They do poorly on a couple of tests and lose their confidence. Courses like this help them build their skills and confidence.”



CSU Summer Algebra Institute



Applications and Admits by Year for First Time Freshmen



Future Plans

- White House Outreach Initiatives for underserved communities.
- Development of Parent Councils in participating churches to work with CSU-AAI in after-church programs.
- Expand regional Educational Forums emphasizing STEM fields.

Future Plans (continued)

- Engage CSU Alumni in CSU-AAI
- Build coalitions with community organizations to share resources in reaching African American males.
- Engage CSU faculty in mentoring African American students from partnering churches.

Future Plans (continued)

- Develop criteria for assessing and evaluating the effectiveness of CSU-AAI activities.
- Secure grants or corporate funding to expand and support CSU Summer Algebra Institutes.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS



www.calstate.edu

Math Cultural Curriculum Framework: CA Standards and Professional Development Modules

- A. Week One - Mathematical Strand: Number Sense and Operations
- B. Week Two - Mathematical Strand: Number Sense and Algebra Readiness
- C. Week Three - Mathematical Strand: Algebra and Functions
- D. Week Four - Mathematical Strand: Geometry and Measurement
- E. Week Five - Applied Mathematical Reasoning through Creative Expressions

Shaping Students' Lives Through Math Education...

- Six week program – 5 hours/day
- Instruction and tutorial services Monday–Thursday; Academic enrichment activities on Fridays (e.g., motivational speakers, completing academic planners, developing computer skills, field trips, etc.).
- Site supervisors and math teachers all have college degrees and/or math teaching credentials .
- All professional staff have prior experience working with African American students.
- All must attend professional development sessions.

Making a Difference...Shaping Students' Lives

- Academic achievement and education seem to be critical determinants of health across the life span and disparities in one contribute to disparities in the other.
- The better educated a person is, the more likely that person is to report being in “excellent” or “very good” health. * (i.e., better educated = better health).

■ *Wirt, J., Choy, S., Rooney, P., Provasnik, S., Sen, A., and Tobin, R. (2004). *The Condition of Education 2004* (NCES 2004-077). U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics. Washington, DC: US Government Printing Office.

Math Tour: African American Contributions Recognized by UCLA

- **LuValle Commons** - named after Dr. James LuValle; Scientist and Olympic athlete
- **Bunche Hall** – Ralph Bunch graduated from UCLA in 1927; first person of color to win the Nobel Peace Prize
- **Campbell Hall** – historic site of the Black Power and Black Studies movement at UCLA and the Black Student Alliance (now named African Student Union)



Math Tour – African American Contributions Recognized by UCLA

- **Arthur Ashe Student Health and Wellness Center** – complete health facility for UCLA students
- **J.D. Morgan Center** – houses trophies and pictures of African American athletes
- **Jackie Robinson Stadium** – UCLA alum and first African American national baseball player
- **Tom Bradley International Hall** – presents a view of the career and accomplishments of UCLA alum and the late L.A. Mayor Tom Bradley



Math Tour – African American Contributions Recognized by UCLA

- **UCLA Medical Center** – students meet with UCLA African American physicians, laboratory technicians and other health care providers
- **Math Sciences Building** – display of math symbols and pictures without noting the African origin and influence on math

At the end of the tour, students are given a Mathematics quiz based on the tour of African and African American contributions recognized by UCLA



Sample Math Question – The Mathematics of Bunche Hall (The windows of Bunche Hall are square)

1. How many windows are there on the side of the building?
2. Instead of counting each window you can use the laws of multiplication to figure out how many windows there are.
3. How many windows are there counting from top to bottom?
4. How many windows are there counting from left to right?
5. How many total windows are there?
6. The area is?
7. The perimeter is?

It Only Takes a Spark...

- Malik Tate (13 years old) –

"I think I'm finally getting it. It's not so bad."



- Sarah Chittenden (15-years old) –

"Reviewing the basics was a help. It's getting easier."

It Only Takes a Spark...

- Quinn Davis (7th grader) –

“I was really struggling with math. When my mom enrolled me in the Summer Algebra Institute, I began to understand the concepts a little better. Then, in eighth grade, my scores jumped and it became a lot easier. I was really proud of myself that I did so well.”



It Only Takes a Spark...

Lora Kermode

(Former Paramount High School teacher and current SAI Instructor)

“Confidence is key here. It’s so important to motivate them... I can just see things start to click in their minds.”

