Leveraging Pods as a Pedagogy Tool to Facilitate Multicultural Collaborative Undergraduate Research in Multi-University Partnerships

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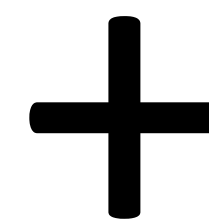
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What's a Pod?

A *pod* connects faculty and student researchers at multiple universities through common projects

faculty at a kickoff meeting   +   ambitious *students*   =

research that leads to conference papers, fellowships, grants, &more

What's in a Pod?

- Committed *faculty* who communicate with each other about project objectives
- Multiple *students* from all participant schools who learn from each other, led by their home faculty mentors
- Multi-semester *projects* that keep all researchers engaged toward significant and important outcomes

Why Pods?

- Pods help in transitioning students—in particular women and minorities—to the different expectations of research environments
- Summer experiences alone at remote schools lack continuity of transition that Pod's structure can provide through faculty involvement

Using Pods for Broadening Participation in Computing across Universities

Pods emerged from an NSF BPC Alliance for the Advancement of African American Researchers in Computing (A4RC) as a means to connect researchers at Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and Research Universities

Funding Pods

Pods start with research courses and NSF Research Experience for Undergrad (REU) funds, with follow up collaborative grants

More information…

- Learn more about A4RC at: *http://www.a4rc.org*
- Connect with an REU at *http://reu.hci.vt.edu*

A4RC

ALLIANCE FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF AFRICAN-AMERICAN RESEARCHERS IN COMPUTING