Almost 60% of the student population at BMCC (Borough of Manhattan Community College) are women and more than 70% of the student body are either Black or Hispanic. Student mentoring (by faculty member) programs have been a huge success in the mathematics department over the past few years. At BMCC, student mentoring/research programs are seen as an investment in the future of the new generation. As the “center of gravity” in higher education shifted away from traditional four-year college toward community college (Brock, 2010), student mentoring/research programs are being taken seriously and given an important role in the students educational learning at the community college level. It is well documented (Mervis, 2001), (Colley, 2003) that the number of students engaged in some type of research had risen across the country. It is also well known that students are very enthusiastic about mentoring programs (Mervis, 2001).

The first goal of this presentation is to show how we were able to cultivate success so that other colleges may follow on that path to develop and run a strong and successful student mentoring/research program within their departments. The second goal of this presentation is to show the students’ perspective of our mentoring programs. (Received September 17, 2013)