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**K. Harrison Holmes\*** (khholmes@asu.edu) and **Eric J. Kostelich**. *MCTP: A Partnership between Arizona State University and Maricopa Community Colleges.*

While the benefits of a two-year college are generally apparent, the experience can also seem far removed from the expanse of opportunities available at universities. Fortunately, this is not the case for Maricopa County Community College students. Various opportunities in biology and mathematics have allowed me, and many like me, to experience high level research, present at international conferences and develop polylingual coding skills. Among the most important of these opportunities, MCTP (Mentoring Through Critical Transition Points in the Mathematical Sciences) pairs up community college students with several specialized applied mathematicians, exposing them to fields as broad as numerical analysis, set theory, topology and statistics. Students are briefly exposed to each topic before engaging in hands on research that nurtures computational skills, the reading of scientific literature and communication of complex ideas to a general audience. While in the program, students are also provided educational and career counseling, as well as a preview of future opportunities available at Arizona State University. (Received September 15, 2014)