

1125-F1-453      **Paul N Runnion\*** (prunnion@mst.edu) and **Barbara Wilkins** (bwilkins@mst.edu). *Hit the Ground Running: A Summer Bridge to Success at Missouri S&T.*

The majority of incoming freshman at Missouri University of Science and Technology enter in a STEM field (primarily engineering), yet many are unprepared for the demands of a STEM program. During the placement and registration process, all incoming freshmen are invited (and underprepared students are strongly encouraged) to participate in Hit the Ground Running (HGR), a 3 week summer bridge program. HGR, which began as the Minority Engineering Program and has grown to encompass a broader range of students, provides students with intensive instruction in Math, English, and Chemistry and culminates in an opportunity to improve their course placement for the fall. We will discuss the structure of HGR, show how it fits into our overall math placement process, and present data on the impact of the workshop on student success. (Received September 02, 2016)