Preparing K–12 Mathematics Teachers.

Virginia State University, a state supported HBCU, has been modifying and creating courses over the past several years to improve the number and quality of candidates in K–12 teacher preparation. A sequence of three mathematics courses was established for students seeking certification to teach grades K–6 which were designed to reflect the CBMS recommendations in The Mathematical Education of Teachers. For students seeking certification to teach grades 6–12, advisement is a crucial element for success in the program. Student Curriculum sheets have been redesigned to aid students complete the requirements of a state approved program. A Seminar in Mathematics Teaching course is under development for first semester junior mathematics education majors, which would include topics incorporating the use of technology in the mathematics classroom, PRAXIS II preparation, cooperative projects and guest presentations from representatives from business partnerships and public school mathematics teachers who are less than five years in the profession. Students in this seminar would complete the PRAXIS II in Mathematics Content as a requirement of the course. Students unsuccessful in obtaining a passing score in PRAXIS II will receive additional mentoring to enable them to become successful. (Received September 26, 2005)