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Students Mentoring (by faculty) Programs in a Community College.

Many have thought that students in community colleges are not able to conduct research in mathematics. The logic behind the thinking is the fact that many students come to community colleges immature, unprepared (Brock, 2010) for college level classes therefore cannot be productive in student research programs. During this talk, we show by providing some of the student research projects, that students in community colleges are ready and are doing valuable research projects. They actively participate in the research programs. Even if some faculty members see student research programs as a burden (Mervis, 2001) given the trade off in their own teaching load and scholarly work, students in majority are very enthusiastic and appreciative of the research programs according to Mervis. The presentation also aims to show that one way to solve the shortage of students trained in mathematics, to fight plagiarism, as well as improving the U.S. ranking among industrialized countries in mathematics and science is to start strong student research programs at community college level. (Received September 26, 2012)