Sherry Kasper* (skasper@leeuniversity.edu), Sarah Schlosser, Anthony Minutolo and Blayne Carroll. Lee University S-STEM: The integration of Math and Science Scholars. Preliminary report.

The integrated Math and Science Scholars (iMASS) program is an NSF funded S-STEM grant that began in the spring of 2015. This program seeks to introduce students to STEM industry and research opportunities in the region, create a learning community, and increase retention in our academically-talented, financially-eligible students, many of whom are minority or first-generation. In addition, we strive to create interdisciplinary conversations between math and science students. To facilitate these cross-disciplinary actions, the students are cohorted in courses such as Experimental Statistics and Mathematical Modeling. This presentation will examine key activities used to foster interdisciplinary collaboration and their impact on students. We also will discuss lessons learned regarding fostering learning communities that prepare students from a variety of STEM fields to work collaboratively on future problems. (Received September 15, 2020)