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Tim McEldowney* (tmce1001@ucr.edu), WV 26505. *Building the Bridge: Creating a new pathway for Underrepresented Minority Women into Calculus*. Preliminary report.

Faculty in the Department of Mathematics at West Virginia University (WVU), an institution where only 7.8% of students identify as African-American or Hispanic, implemented an Emerging Scholars Program (ESP) in 2009 to support underrepresented minority students in their journey through Calculus. ESP at WVU has been successful at retaining and supporting URM students over the decade. For example, URM students who go through ESP Calculus have a significantly higher STEM graduation rate than non-ESP URM students. However, women are underrepresented in the program (30.6%) and in Fall of 2019 we ended up with an ESP Calculus I class that was all men. Looking through institutional data we found that women are underrepresented in Calculus I at WVU even more than the national average (34% vs. 45%), yet are better represented in WVU's lower level mathematics courses like College Algebra (47%). To address this underrepresentation of women in ESP we created a Summer Bridge to get underrepresented minority women from College Algebra and Trigonometry to prepare them for entering ESP Calculus I in the fall semester. In this talk we will discuss the data that led to the creation of the Bridge, how we designed it, and challenges the initial Summer Bridge faced, like a global pandemic. (Received September 08, 2020)