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Interdisciplinary curricular innovations at the University of the Virgin Islands.

The University of the Virgin Islands, an HBCU, undertook a series of activities in order to transform the undergraduate experience for students with an eye toward integrating mathematical, biological and computational ideas.

The goals of the effort was to increase the quantitative preparedness of all science and mathematics majors, such that they are better able to solve problems using quantitative techniques. In support of this over-arching goals, the objectives were: to introduce quantitative methods into the introductory biology classes and introduce biological applications into introductory quantitative courses; to increase the ability of UVI Division of Science and Mathematics faculty to introduce new quantitative activities and modules into biology courses and new biological application activities and modules into quantitative courses; and to increase the number of students participating in cross disciplinary quantitative science activities in upper level courses or in research each year.

We will present preliminary results, including the formation of new concentrations for all students, the creation of new courses, the creation of and implementation of course modules, and the collaboration of faculty and students in interdisciplinary research. (Received September 22, 2009)