

National Science Foundation grant #9353963, “Workshop to Enhance Computing Faculty at Two-Year Colleges Serving Native Americans,” 1994.

Description: The purpose of the proposed workshop is to enhance the background and ability of faculty members teaching within the area of computing sciences at a two-year college which serves Native Americans. This purpose is achieved through a five-day workshop and follow-up activities involving twenty faculty members. Participants are urged to apply in pairs, two from one institution or one from Strategic Summit on the Computing Education Challenges at Community Colleges each of two neighboring institutions. During the one-week workshop, the participants are brought up to date on the computing sciences topics and methodologies that can be offered in associate-degree programs, as identified in the recently-completed two-year college computing curricula recommendations of the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM). By engaging in small group activities based on the report's contents, participants develop items such as implementation strategies for specific content areas, educational materials, ways of combining topics into courses, and project or laboratory exercises. Through contact with industry representatives, participants are informed about current employment opportunities and issues for graduates with an associate degree in the computing sciences. Upon completion of the workshop activities, each participant-pair is required to conduct a local follow-up mini workshop to disseminate materials and knowledge gained from the workshop. These follow-up activities provide means for participants to interact with colleagues in the same or neighboring institutions on a person-to-person basis. The results of the project will be presented by the participants in journal articles and conference presentations.