



2015 HAWAII UNIVERSITY INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

S.T.E.A.M. & EDUCATION JUNE 13 - 15, 2015

ALA MOANA HOTEL, HONOLULU, HAWAII

S.T.E.A.M & EDUCATION PUBLICATION:

ISSN 2333-4916 (CD-ROM)

ISSN 2333-4908 (ONLINE)

PATHWAY TO THE STARS ... A SUMMER BRIDGE PROGRAM ON THE RETENTION OF STEM STUDENTS

SPELLMAN, ZENORA E. & ET AL

NORFOLK STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE, ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY

Pathway to the STARS ... A Summer Bridge Program to Retain STEM Students

Sandra J. DeLoatch

Provost and Vice President for Academic
Affairs
Norfolk State University
sjdeloatch@nsu.edu

Michael O. Keeve

Associate Dean, College of Science,
Engineering and Technology
Norfolk State University
mokeeve@nsu.edu

Zenora E. Spellman

Director, Undergraduate Research Program
Norfolk State University
zspellman@nsu.edu

Abstract – The College of Science, Engineering, and Technology (CSET) at Norfolk State University (NSU) provides a series of services to students and faculty in an effort to enhance academic success, specifically the retention of students in STEM degree programs. The retention rate we are addressing is the freshmen to sophomore retention rate (the number of first-time full-time freshmen students who enroll at NSU during the fall semester and return to NSU the following fall semester). A math-focused Summer Bridge Program (Pathway to the STARS) is one of the services provided to incoming freshmen students to aid in increasing this retention rate. This paper will present findings for the cohorts of students participating in the Summer Bridge Program from 2007 – 2012. Information provided will include the summer schedules and activities of the program, mathematics placement tests results, student performance in their fall math classes, the retention rates for the cohort of students, and the overall retention rate for the College of Science, Engineering, and Technology from 2007-2012.