ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The goal of the STEM program is to enhance the quality of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) instructional and outreach programs at Kapi‘olani Community College, as well as to increase the number of STEM students transferring to four-year degree programs as they prepare for careers in the STEM disciplines. The program was started in August 2005 with a $1.25 million Tribal Colleges and Universities Program (TCUP) grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) for the development and implementation of the STEM program. Although the original TCUP grant expired in July of 2010, a second TCUP grant was awarded to the STEM Program and will provide approximately $450,000 annually through 2015. Several other grants have been awarded to the STEM Program and are used to fund various STEM student activities including undergraduate research, scholarships, and summer programs. For more information on the grants that have been awarded to the STEM Program, please visit stem.kcc.hawaii.edu.

ABOUT STEM CENTER

The new STEM Center, located on the second floor of the Koki‘o building, provides a unique collaborative space where students and faculty can interact. The Center offers peer-mentoring services, tutoring, tablet PC and desktop computer support, and educational resources for all STEM students. The STEM program also utilizes several open laboratories such as the Physics/Physical Science/Engineering lab, which is used as an open-lab learning environment equipped with microcomputer-based data collection and analysis software for self-study. Additionally, STEM peer mentors and faculty members are available to support students in all STEM facilities.

STEM PATHWAYS

STEM offers students four content pathways in which to focus their learning as they pursue their degrees. These pathways serve as a focal point for faculty and student interactions, as well as providing students with field experiences, community service and research opportunities.

BIOTECH AND MOLECULAR SCIENCE PATHWAY
Students may receive a certificate in bio-technology along with undergraduate research opportunities. Courses include immunology and protein chemistry, molecular biology, cell biology and tissue culture.

PHYSIOLOGY AND HUMAN BEHAVIOR PATHWAY
Courses in nutritional health, exercise and sports science, as well as behavior modification and sleep science lead to opportunities to participate in undergraduate research and internships in biomedical sciences.

SPACE SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING PATHWAY
First- and second-year courses prepare students for transfer into the UH Manoa College of Engineering.

WAIIKII WATERSHED ECOLOGY PATHWAY
Courses in biology, botany, ecology, marine science and zoology focus on the watershed in and around Waikiki.

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