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Anthony Marchese, Rowan University

Beena Sukumaran, Rowan University

Catherine Yang, Rowan University

Courtney Richmond, Rowan University

Demond Miller, Rowan University

Joseph Orlins, Rowan University

Kauser Jahan, Rowan University

Mariano Savelski, Rowan University

Paris von Lockette, Rowan University

Patricia Mosto, Rowan University

Stephanie Farrell, Rowan University

William Riddell, Rowan University

Ying Tang, Rowan University

Yusuf Mehta, Rowan University

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Research Experiences in Pollution Prevention and Sustainability

Abstract

Rowan University hosts an NSF REU Site in Pollution Prevention and Sustainability every summer. Undergraduate students from various science and engineering disciplines from all over the USA participated in these pollution prevention research activities. Engineering faculty mentored students for an eight-week period. While research was the primary activity, other community building modules, seminars, social events and communication strengthening exercises were an integral part of the Pollution Prevention experience. A special workshop on environmental ethics and environmental justice was also offered to help students connect pollution prevention issues to environmental ethics. The program was highly successful as evident by resulting publications, student awards and % of students pursuing graduate school. The theme seems to appeal to a wide audience of engineering and science students.