

Faculty and Staff Diversity Mini-Grant Final Report

Project title: Social Justice in STEM_____

Grant Recipients: Anil Venkatesh, David Griffith, Sean McCormick, Nathan Leatherman, Angie Mishler_____

Date Project Started: 11/14/2016_____

Amount of Money Funded by the Mini-Grant: \$1000_____

1. How was the grant used to address a diversity or inclusion related goal? The purpose of the project was to highlight issues of social justice in STEM. We brought mathematician and social justice advocate Dave Kung to Ferris to lead a workshop for faculty and staff on the data behind social justice obstacles in STEM, and the types of teaching methods that are known to help students overcome these obstacles.
2. Describe the audience that was impacted by the grant's implementation. Provide quantitative data, if available.

The audience consisted of faculty members from the departments of mathematics, biology, and physical sciences, and from FLITE. One student and two administrators were also in attendance. The participants were given an evaluation form on which they reported their prior familiarity with social justice issues in STEM and their new familiarity with this topic after the workshop. They also rated the event's efficacy in promoting awareness of social justice issues in STEM. The average prior familiarity was reported at 2.95/5, while the new familiarity level was reported 0.8 points higher, at 3.75/5. The average rating on the efficacy of the event was 4.45/5. Additionally, six participants indicated interest in attending a faculty working group on social justice in STEM.

3. Grant recipients are required to provide a short narrative that details the specific efforts each of the collaborators made to the implementation of the grant.

Anil Venkatesh took the primary organizational role for this project. He assembled the organizing team from a wide range of STEM disciplines, secured funding through multiple internal sources, reserved rooms, ordered catering, and distributed promotional fliers for the event. The other co-organizers helped to promote the event through their departments and professional connections in the Ferris community.

4. What is your overall assessment of the project's impact on the Ferris community? How did this impact compare to what you expected?

The three stated outcomes of the project were achieved. Participants indicated increased awareness of social justice issues in STEM, active learning pedagogies, and a quorum of attendees expressed interest in a faculty working group on social justice in STEM. The latter outcome was conceived as a reach goal for the project, so we are especially pleased to have achieved it. The main shortfall of the project was lower than anticipated attendance. It is possible that interested parties were unable to attend due to scheduling conflicts. In retrospect, we could have been more proactive in the planning stage to attempt to resolve such issues.

5. Present a final budget including all funds received and spent related to the project, with special focus on the funds received via the Diversity Mini-grant.

Honoraria: \$1000 (\$400 from Diversity Mini-grant)

Travel: \$814.64 (\$400 from Diversity Mini-grant)

Food: \$500

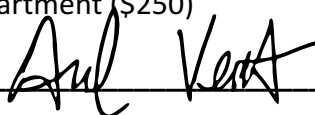
Rental: \$304.03 (\$150 from Diversity Mini-grant)

Printing & Duplicating: \$0

Other: \$50 (\$50 from Diversity Mini-grant)

Other funding sources: Hope College (\$300), Calvin College (\$600), College of Arts and Sciences (\$518.67), Mathematics Department (\$250)

Primary Grant Recipient's Signature



Date **3/30/2017**