

ADVANCING FEMALES TO PROFESSORIAL IN COMPUTING

FemProf is paving the road to professorship for female students. It is a collaborative initiative between the **University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez** and the **University of Houston-Downtown**. It aims at establishing a model for significantly increasing the number of undergraduate female students that pursue a professorship career in computing. The short-term objective of the project is to significantly increase the number of female students that continue doctoral studies in computing. The long-term objective is to significantly increase the number of female faculty in computing.

The Students

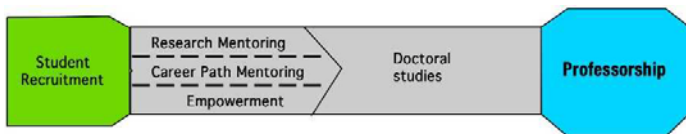


Expected Outcomes

- A program that serves as a model for increasing the number of female students that continue graduate studies towards a Ph.D and become professors;
- An increase in the number of doctorates awarded to Hispanic females in computing;
- An increase in the number of Hispanic females that become professors in computing;
- Replication of the program by other institutions.

The project focuses on female computer engineering and computer science students at **UPRM** and **UHD**. The project is expected to **impact at least 36 female students** during the demonstration period. Eight students from **UPRM** and four from **UHD** will be recruited each year. They will undergo a two-year program in which they will participate in research, career path mentoring and empowerment activities.

The Model



FemProf model relies on four strategies:

- **Student Recruitment** – Identify students with key characteristics to succeed in the program.
- **Research Mentoring** – Help students develop research skills and expose them to a significant research experience that motivated them to pursue graduate studies.
- **Career Path Mentoring** – Guide students in getting prepared for graduate studies and pursue a professorship career..
- **Empowerment** - Help students overcome gender bias barriers that preclude them from pursuing a professorship career.

Dissemination

The experiences and results accomplished with the project as well as the instruments, seminars and workshops' contents, and procedures developed will be shared with **CAHSI** members as well as any other institution willing to replicate the model.

Support

FemProf is a demonstration project of **CAHSI**, the NSF supported **Computing Alliance of Hispanic Serving Institutions** (<http://cahsi.fiu.edu/main.html>).

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