

## HANDOUT FOR CLASS ACTIVITY 4.3. MAPPING FROM RESEARCH FINDINGS



### Excerpt of a Research Summary

This evaluation provides information about effective strategies and opportunities for positive change, to help plan future projects to improve and expand the Howard University PAC-Involved model. Key recommendations include the following:

- *Spend more time on more interactive activities, less time on lectures.* While students liked exposure to movies/TV shows, they were more engaged when this was combined with “hands-on” components.
- *Expand opportunities for students to be exposed to college,* such as participants attending lectures with college students, so they can see how college students behave during class. Although not a goal of the program, several students shared that they appreciated exposure to college life, which gave them a better idea of what to expect. A related idea is to use a lecture hall for lectures and the lab for lab work, consistent with standard university practice; this could increase students’ attentiveness and comfort.
- *Increase collaboration and communication with high school teachers,* to better benefit from their experience and to improve coordination.
- *Continue to include a young graduate student* in the sessions with students as a classroom assistant. Students related to the graduate assistant more than the professors because he was closer to their age. Increasing stipends will make it easier to recruit qualified graduate assistants.
- *Consider creating a future program that lasts longer than one semester.* Some students were reluctant at first, saying they came only to receive the incentive stipend. However, as they became more involved, several students expressed verbally and in writing that their interest increased, and some said they were sorry the program ended after one semester. A potential downside of lengthening the program could be fewer students participating, so care would need to be taken to ensure that students were interested in a longer session.

### Small Maps

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