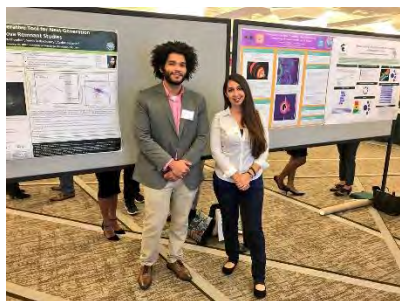




2017 AGEP Conference Attracts 100 Participants



Michigan AGEP Alliance
Conference Attendees

On Saturday, October 14, 2017, Michigan State University hosted the 2017 Michigan AGEP Alliance Fall Conference at the Kellogg Conference Center and Hotel. Over 90 participants (representing 23 institutions), including AGEP Community members from institutions across the state of Michigan, former MSU Summer Research Opportunities interns, and out-of-state undergraduate researchers contributed in this conference. Saturday's conference began with a light networking breakfast. Attendees participated in two concurrent student PowerPoint presentations (Cross Talks). CrossTalks are designed as cross-disciplinary discussions between the Social Science, Natural Science and Engineering disciplines. For each presentation room, there were no less than 30 people in attendance. These sessions, facilitated by Ashley Sanderlin and Dr. Jubin Cheruvellil of Michigan State University

Morning sessions included, "Academia Reality Check", "Teaching Portfolio & Philosophy" and "Paying and Staying for Graduate School". The Academia Reality Check panel discussion included faculty from Keyon College (Dr. Mo Husen), Tuskegee University (Dr. Richard Whittington) and Michigan State University (Dr. Terah Chambers). The Developing a Teaching Portfolio & Philosophy discussion was facilitated by Dr. Pamela Martin from Prairie View A&M University, and covered ways that graduate students or post-docs should prepare a teaching philosophy statement, as well as leverage their teaching assistant experiences. The Staying and Paying for Graduate School panel discussion was facilitated by Dr. Dereck Skeete (Medgar Evers College) and Dr. Ann Marie Cano (Wayne State University).

After the panel discussions and presentations, conference attendees joined other participants in the Networking Luncheon and Poster Session where twenty-two researchers from across the State showcased their research posters. During this time, keynote speaker, Dr. Gary Hoover (University of Oklahoma) gave a presentation titled, "Navigating the Academic Job Market in the New Economy". Shortly after the keynote address, the Michigan AGEP Alliance Steering Committee met to discuss next steps and future collaborations. Concurrently, conference attendees participated in conference mixer and academic job recruitment session with Delta College.

Following the mixer, the afternoon workshop sessions included, "Graduate School Expectations", "Getting the Mentorship You Need", "Becoming a Faculty Entrepreneur", "Strategies for Navigating the Dissertation", and "Academic Job Searching". When asked his thoughts on the conference, Jorge Mateus of MSU said, "I loved the usefulness of the content presented by the speakers in the various workshops, as well as the ease to connect with other students and professionals whose experience matter in my own path to graduate school."
