An intensive two week-long investigation designed to create awareness, stimulate interest, and take full advantage of the opportunities that exist in the transportation industry.

Final Report

July 18 – July 31, 2010

Submitted by:
Cody J. Kangas, Coordinator of Youth Programs
Rachel Misenheimer, Co-Coordinator of Youth Programs
Steve Patchin, Director of Youth Programs Outreach & Engagement

Department of Student Affairs ♦ Michigan Technological University ♦ Houghton, MI
August 30, 2010

Michigan Technological University is an equal opportunity educational institution/equal opportunity employer.
“My favorite experience was going inside the Mackinac Bridge. I never thought I would do something like that. It was great!”
Mateo (Bayside, NY)

Program Content

During the National Summer Transportation Institute at Michigan Tech, 27 participants:

- Used hands-on activities to explore different areas of transportation, including planes, trains, automobiles, and ships
- Learned from role models working in transportation fields about topics such as bridge design, airport construction, and snow roads across Antarctica
- Discovered team skills and applied the knowledge learned about transportation during group projects
- Went on field trips to local attractions, such as Eagle River, Portage Canal Lift Bridge, and Isle Royale
- Went on a weekend long excursion to Soo Sault Marie, MI and St.Ignace, MI to tour the Soo locks, the International Bridge, and the Mackinac Bridge.
- Became acquainted with college life and extracurricular activities on campus
- Met other talented teens with similar backgrounds and interests

Demographic Information – 27 Total Students

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ethnicity</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Grade, Fall 2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>African American</td>
<td>Michigan</td>
<td>9th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic/Latino</td>
<td>New York</td>
<td>10th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian American</td>
<td></td>
<td>11th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caucasian</td>
<td></td>
<td>12th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi-racial</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- 7% 93% 7%
- 8% 8% 11%
- 23% 48% 52%
- 50%
Evaluation Highlights

Based on participant surveys, the students especially enjoyed the hands-on group projects and field trip portion of the program. Highlights of the program included how great the field trips were, making new and diverse friends, and getting to experience college life first-hand.

79.17% of participants felt more likely to have a future career in the transportation industry after participating in the program.

83.33% of participants felt more encouraged to attend college after completing the program.

91.67% of participants agree that the transportation industry has contributed greatly to solving problems found in the world.

After completing the program, the participants plan to take the following transportation or related courses in high school or college:

- 83.33% - Math courses
- 83.33% - Science courses
- 70.83% - Technology based courses
- 66.67% - Design courses
- 54.17% - Transportation courses
- 25.00% - Other
Parent Comments

“My son came back motivated and excited about all the new things he had learned. He said the instructors were great and he met a lot of new friends. This is one program that I will definitely recommend to other students and parents. Thank you for affording my son the opportunity to explore the field of engineering as it relates to transportation.”

“My child had the chance to learn about all the different engineering disciplines while getting hands on experience. He made many new friends that were all like minded that he will be able to network with throughout his career. These camps were time well spent.”

“My son had an awesome time. He enjoyed the staff and the other students in the program. I can’t believe all the activities that he was able to participate in. WOW! I wanted to attend too. I’m sure he will continue to talk about the experience for years to come.”

“My son’s most memorable experiences were meeting many different people from all over the world that had the same interests as him and taking the many field trips. He loved viewing the Mackinac Bridge, and rock climbing while visiting Isle Royale.”