

Smart & Connected Communities



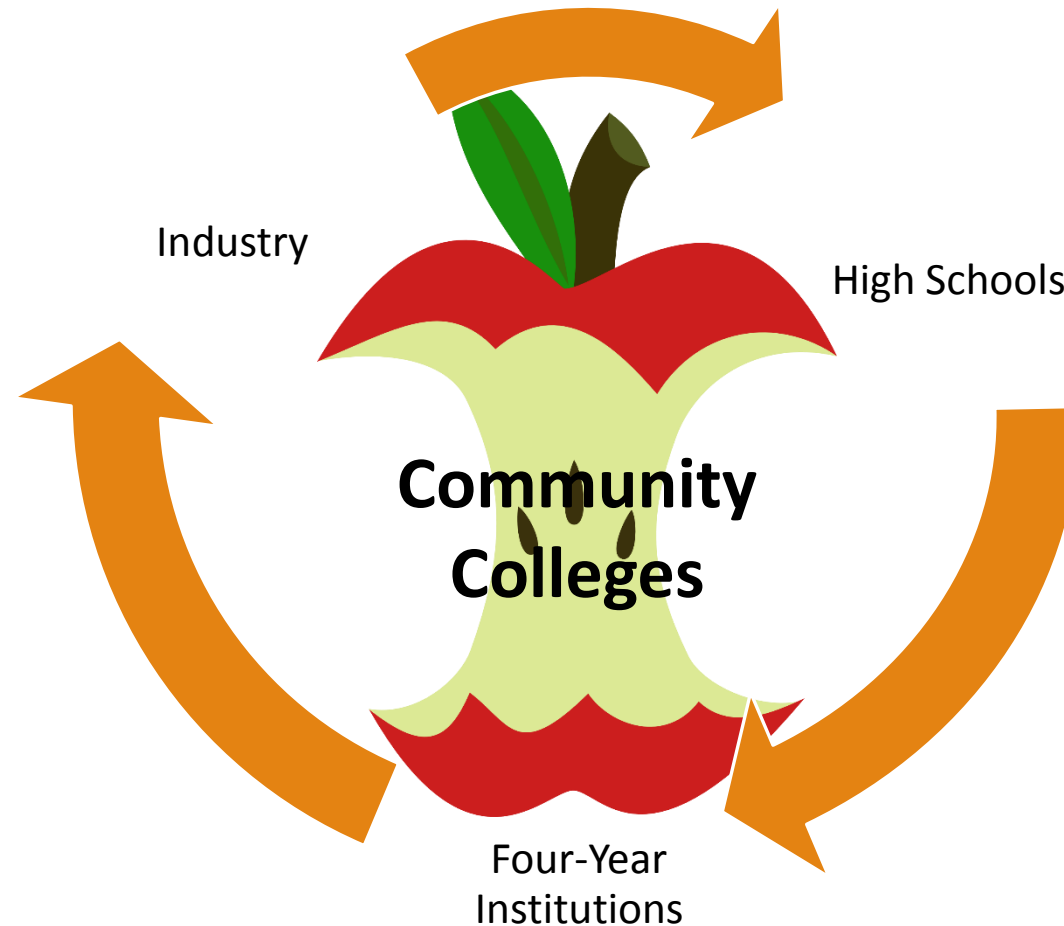
National Science Foundation
WHERE DISCOVERIES BEGIN

HBCU UP Implementation Projects

Award #0928354 Award #1036239 Award #1533537

Community Colleges

The CORE of Smart & Connected Communities



Assets of Community Colleges

- Uniquely positioned to grow the pipeline of STEM professionals
- 90 percent of the U.S. population lives within 25 miles of a community college (*American Association of Community Colleges*)
- Already serve many ethnic and racial minorities, who are expected to grow in numbers
- Inexpensive option for the many low-income, low-skilled adults

Current Work Related to Smart & Connected Communities

➤ ***STEM-UP Academy***

- Pre-College Program Summer STEM Academic Integrated Learning (SSAIL)
- Summer Bridge Programs
- Articulation Agreements with 4-year Institutions

➤ ***Jackson State University***

- Nanotechnology Summer Research

➤ ***EducationLogistix***

- Cyberbased Activities – Cybermentoring

➤ ***University of Mississippi***

- Mississippi Space Grant Consortium

➤ ***NASA 2015 BalloonSat Workshop***

- Balloon Launch by STEM Students

➤ ***Partnerships with Industries***

- Visits & Internships



NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center is on Facebook. To connect with NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center, join Facebook today.

Join

Log In



NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center
Amazing aerial shot of U.S. Space & Rocket Center from the Hinds Community College team, from Utica, Mississippi.

#NASAMarshall #STEM

NASA Sponsors BalloonSat Workshop · Feb 6 ·



[View Full Size](#)

NSA 2015 BalloonSat Workshop



NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center is on Facebook. To connect with NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center, join Facebook today.

Join

Log In



NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center
Several team reached more than 20 miles in altitude, as witnessed by the view from the Hinds Community College balloon, from Utica, Mississippi.

#NASAMarshall #STEM

NASA Sponsors BalloonSat Workshop · Feb 6 ·



[View Full Size](#)

Important Priorities

- Early Research Experience for High School Students
- Research Experience Opportunities for High School and Community College Faculty
- Strong focus on underprepared students, particularly in mathematics

Next steps for the field/community...

Nanotechnology Research Experiences

***Focus on Connecting High School Schools in Rural
Communities, Community Colleges & Historically Black
Colleges & Universities***

Personal Quality of Life

Community and Environmental Health

Social Well-being

Educational Achievement

Overall Economic Growth and Stability

Contact Information

Mitchell M. Shears, Ed.D.

Hinds Community College – Utica Campus

Academic Dean & STEM-UP Academy Project Director

[Email: mitchell.shears@hindsc.edu](mailto:mitchell.shears@hindsc.edu)

Office: 601-885-7004