



SAN DIEGO STATE
UNIVERSITY

College of Engineering

Blasker Science and Technology Grant Program 2017 STEM Education

SDSU Bioengineering: A Pathway to Interdisciplinary STEM at SDSU

For summer 2017, Drs. Karen May-Newman and George Youssef, Department of Mechanical Engineering, hosted a research experience for female students in the interdisciplinary field of Bioengineering funded by the San Diego Foundation as part of the Blasker STEM Education Grants Program.

Throughout the Program, participants worked under the mentorship of a faculty member and graduate students on different research thrusts within the Cardiovascular Bioengineering Laboratory and the Experimental Mechanics Laboratory at SDSU. Four undergraduate and nine high school students were engaged in all aspects of applied research from performing experiments to analyzing and interpreting data in various SDSU laboratories.

At the conclusion of the Program on July 20, 2017, the students were excited and eager to have the opportunity to share their final presentations at the Conrad Prebys Aztec Student Union to SDSU professors, administrators, high-school teachers, researchers, peers and family members.

The goal of the Program was to motivate and prepare students for successful STEM careers and to increase the participation of women, an underrepresented minority, in engineering programs. The Program was very successful for its initial effort, with 80% of student participants very satisfied and 20% satisfied, and 100% of the student participants would recommend the Program to their peers.

