

CENTER ON DISABILITY STUDIES  
University Of Hawai'i, Mānoa



# Pacific Alliance

*5 Critical Concepts to Support the  
Transition of Students With  
Disabilities to College*



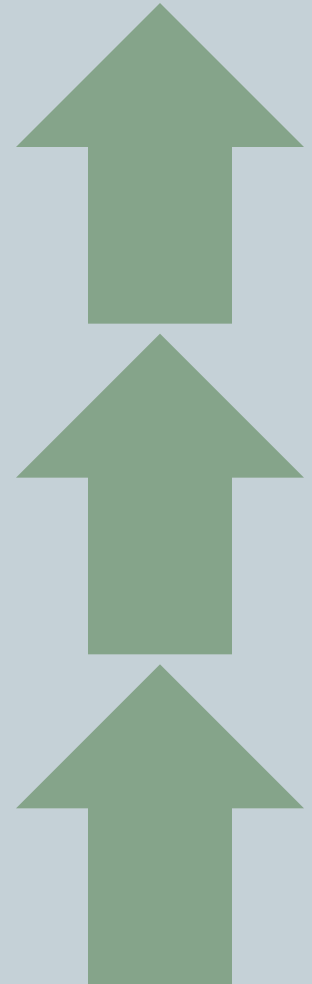
**NSF Grant No. HRD #09-29079**

# Goals of Pacific Alliance



## Increase:

- the number of high school students with disabilities entering postsecondary education.
- the number of individuals with disabilities (IWDs) in STEM postsecondary programs.
- the number of IWDs graduating from postsecondary education.
- the number of IWDs within the STEM workforce.



# Supporting Through Critical Junctures



## Support



Evidenced based, student-centered practices and activities and support



# Activity

# Critical Concept 1: Events



## 2014 Winter Institute

- Pacific Rim International Conference on Disability and Diversity
- Summer Academic Camps
- Summer & Winter Institutes
- High School Monthly Sessions
  - Parent Night Recruitment
  - Session 1: *Introduction of Pacific Alliance*
  - Session 2: *STEM Career Card Sort, Participation Forms*



# Critical Concept 2: Identifying and Planning for Goals



- Session 3: *“Getting to Know You” - Goals Part 1, Demographic and Past Experience Survey*
- Session 6: *Goals Part 2, S.M.A.R.T. strategy*
  - ✦ S – Specific in your goals
  - ✦ M – Measurable, are you able to see progress?
  - ✦ A – Action-Oriented, steps to take
  - ✦ R – Realistic, can this really be achieved?
  - ✦ T – Timely, is this too much/little time?

# Critical Concept 3: Self-Advocacy



- ***Session 4: Self-Advocacy Part 1, Self-Advocacy Strategy*** *(adapted from the University of Kansas, Center for Research and Learning, self-advocacy strategy)*
- ***Session 5: Self-Advocacy Part 2, IPLAN***
  - ✦ I – Inventory your skills and weaknesses
  - ✦ P – Provide your inventory information
  - ✦ L – Listen and respond
  - ✦ A – Ask questions
  - ✦ N – Name your goals

# High School Sessions: What we Cover



- Session 5: *Self-Advocacy Part 2*





# Critical Concept 4: Transitioning into College



- Session 7: *Assistive Technology*
  - ✦ Smart pens
  - ✦ Kurzweil
- Session 8: *College Application*
- Session 9: *Financial Aid*

# Critical Concept 5: Hands-on Learning



- All sessions include some sort of hands-on learning activity, coupled with worksheets and/or outside presenters and partners.
  - Session 1: *Introduction of Pacific Alliance*
  - Session 2: *STEM Career Card Sort, Participation Forms*
  - Session 3: *“Getting to Know You” - Goals Part 1, Demographic and Past Experience Survey*
  - Session 4: *Self-Advocacy Part 1, Self-Advocacy Strategy*
  - Session 5: *Self-Advocacy Part 2, IPLAN*
  - Session 6: *Goals Part 2, S.M.A.R.T. strategy*
  - Session 7: *Assistive Technology*
  - Session 8: *College Application*
  - Session 9: *Financial Aid*

# Progress Report



## **Spring 2013**

- Number of high school participants served: 111
  - Number of high schools served: 17
- Percent of high school participants who transitioned to college: 39%
- Percent of transitioned students who enrolled in a S.T.E.M. degree: 100%

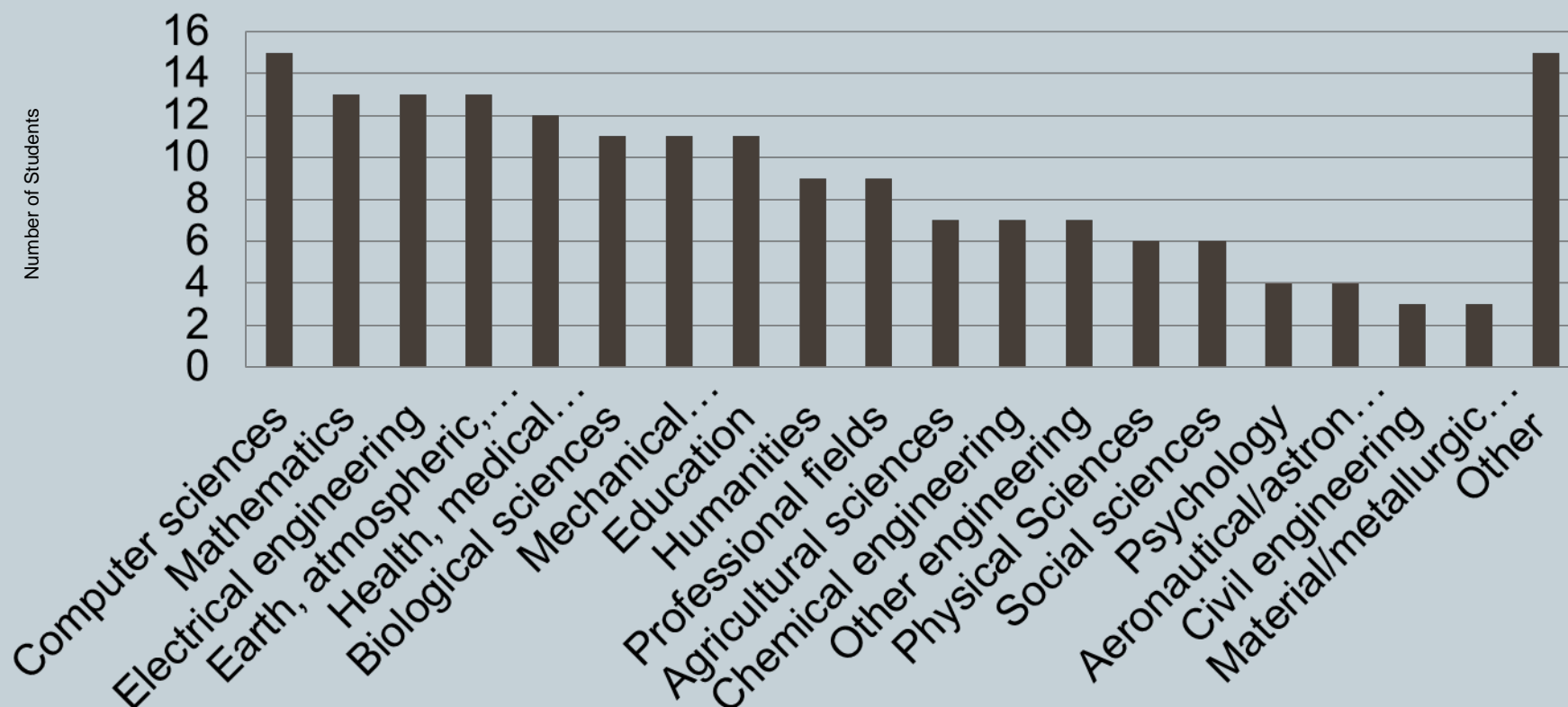
## **Spring 2014**

- Number of high school participants served: 184
  - Number of high schools served: 17

# High School Sessions: Participant Interests

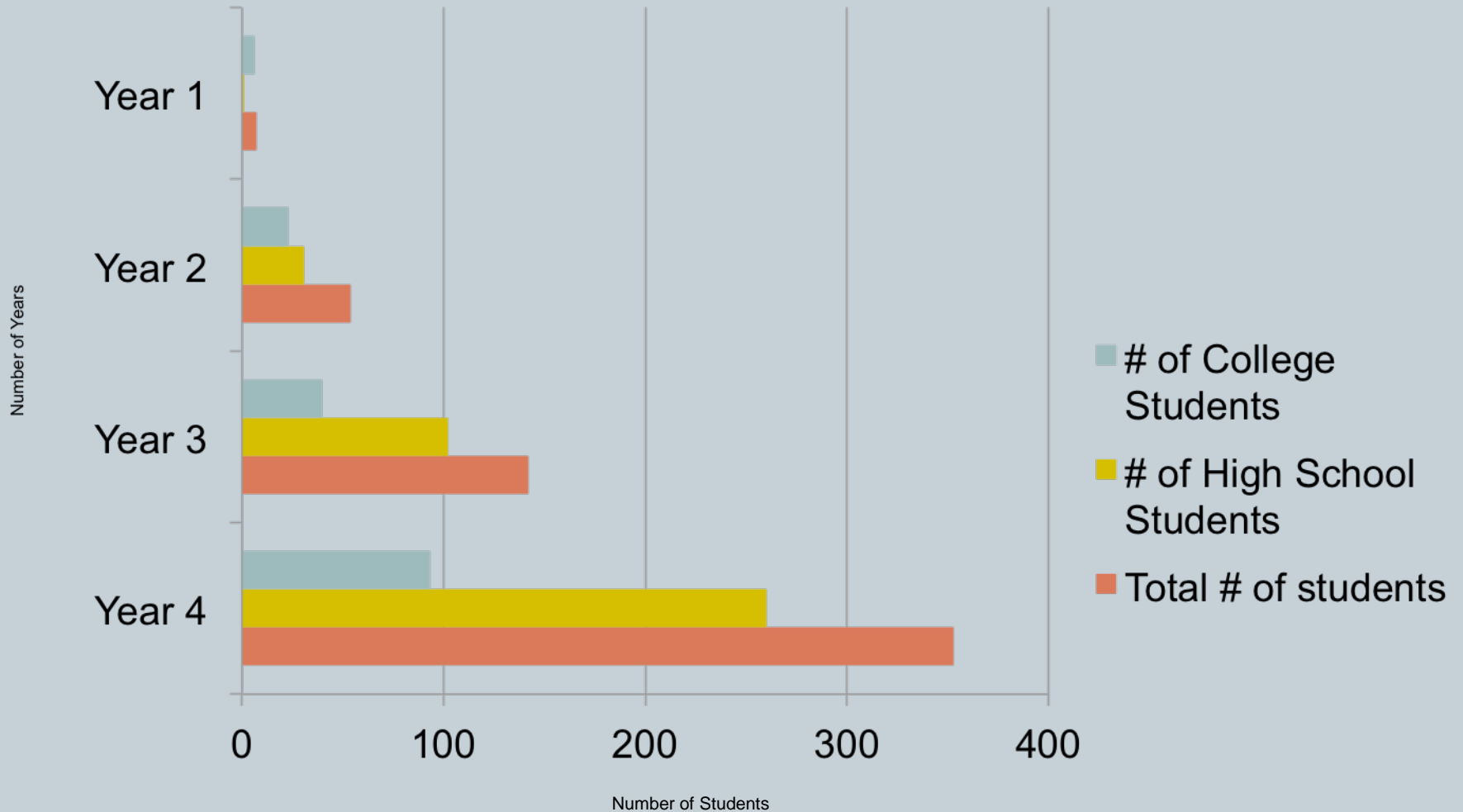


## Academic Interests of Pacific Alliance High School Participants



STEM Academic Field of Interest

# Progress Report



THANK YOU



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