Strategies to Engage Undergraduate Students in Space Weather Research

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摘要/Abstract:
The Queensborough Community College (QCC) of the City University of New York (CUNY), a Hispanic and minority-serving institution, has been very successful at engaging undergraduate students in space weather research for the past two years. Recently, QCC received two awards from the National Science Foundation (NSF) and NASA, respectively to support student research in solar and atmospheric physics under the umbrella discipline of space weather. Through these awards, students receive stipends during the academic year and summer to engage in scientific research. Students also have the opportunity to complete a summer internship at NASA Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC) and at other partner institutions. Students have presented their research at both the American Geophysical Union (AGU) and the American Meteorological Society (AMS). Results from student research projects and how to best engage students in research with little to no research experience will be discussed. The challenges of engaging students in research as early as their first year in college will also be discussed. Once funding is over, how is the program sustained? Sustaining such a program, as well as how to implement it at other universities will also be discussed.