Activities involved with improving teacher quality
North Carolina Mathematics and Science Network (NC MSEN)

Goal area of the activity: Our goal is to enhance the content knowledge of teachers of mathematics and science in the state of North Carolina and to increase the pool of students who will major in a STEM area.

A brief summary: The UNC Charlotte CMSTE is part of the larger University of North Carolina systems NC MSEN. The site at UNC Charlotte was established in 1983 as one of two initial Network sites dedicated to strengthening the teaching and learning of mathematics and science in grades K-12 and beyond through collaborative partnerships with the regional schools, community colleges, business and industry, and state and local agencies. The UNC Charlotte offers a Pre-College Program for under-represented minority and female students, a Summer Ventures program for academically gifted high school students, and special programs and workshops for teachers. All of these are in mathematics and science. We are the only Network location that operates both a Pre-College Program and a Summer Ventures Program. In addition to offering seminars, workshops, courses and special programs for teachers, the Center sponsors regional student competitions.

Purpose: The purpose of the NC MSEN is to provide Professional Development in the content area to teachers of mathematics and science in the state of North Carolina.

Accomplishments/Results: The NC MSEN offers numerous workshops across the state and has an impact in almost every county of the state. The network keeps track of the teachers impacted and when a county is seen to be absent over a period of time, the directors will visit to try to determine what the county needs and what the network might be able to offer for that county.

Plans for the next 12 months: Plans for the next 12 months are best found at the NC MSEN homepage at http://www.unc.edu/depts/msen/.