The SIMS program was established to engage and challenge high achieving incoming UCSB freshmen that have traditionally been underrepresented in the sciences, engineering, and mathematics. SIMS students take an intense introduction to university Calculus, Chemistry or Physics, and Technical Writing. They are also assigned to work in small research groups with graduate student mentors, based on their interests. Mentors orient SIMS students to the diverse and collaborative research culture and community at UCSB, as well to the process of scientific inquiry by providing authentic hands-on challenges that build skills and confidence.

**Recruitment and Selection Demographics:** The table below gives diversity demographics of our applicants and interns for Summers 2005 through 2009. We have been quite successful at both recruiting female and minority students. Current national statistics (NCES, 2005) indicate that only 15% of all STEM bachelor’s degrees go towards minority students – our 50% minority participation rate greatly exceeds that.

**SIMS Program Impacts and Student Accomplishments:** We have performed extensive tracking of the activities of former SIMS participants, from Summers 2005 to 2009. There have been a total of 145 students from these time periods.

**Long-Term Tracking of Academic Progress:**
- Retention Success: 80 students out of 84 (from summers 2007-2009 – 95%) are still enrolled at UCSB and 98% of those are still in STEM majors.
- Cumulative Academic Performance for each cohort:
  - Average GPA for 2009 is 3.43
  - Average GPA for 2008 is 3.32
  - Average GPA for 2007 is 3.19
  - Average GPA for 2006 is 3.17
  - Average GPA for 2005 is 2.77
- Undergraduate Research for each cohort:
  - 7 for 2009 – student in their 1st year at UCSB
  - 15 for 2008 – student in their 2nd year at UCSB
  - 15 for 2007 – student in their 3rd year at UCSB
  - 10 for 2006 – student in their 4th year at UCSB
  - 7 for 2005 – graduated in June 2009 and June 2010
- Conference Presentations and Awards for Researchers:
  - 2005 cohort – All student who have participated in research have presented their work at local and national conferences, 2 won award for their work at the California Alliance for Minority Participation (CAMP) statewide symposium at UC Irvine.
  - 2006-2007 cohorts – All have presented at either a local or National Conference. Three won awards for their work at the National Society for Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science (SACNAS) in October 2008.

**SIMS Student Publications:** Duc Duong (SIMS 06) *Chemical Physics Letters*
Lourdes Velazquez (SIMS 07) *Journal of Physical Chemistry*
Kyle Owen (SIMS 06) *Applied Physics Letters*
Ricardo Alamillo (SIMS 06) *Polymer*

**Student Leadership:** 38 out of 145 students have taken on leadership roles in science education programs, acting as peer-mentors in the EPSEM/SIMS Programs, teaching science to K12 students, UCSB-SACNAS club leadership roles, etc. The UCSB-SACNAS club, for which 7 out of 8 officers are former SIMS participants, was recognized as the 2008 National Chapter of the Year.