Supporting and Retaining Students of Color in an Undergraduate Teacher Preparation Program

The Institute for Urban Education at the University of Missouri, Kansas City
The mission of the IUE is to partner with our community to prepare exemplary educators for urban settings.
Outcomes

- Increased Higher Educational Attainment for Urban Youth
- Increased Diversity in Teaching Profession
- Increased Retention of Urban Teachers
- Increased K-12 Student Achievement
Informing Practice

- Current Literature
  - PWI’s
- Blue Ribbon Task Force
  - Time to Get it Right
- Community Forums
Current Progress

■ Rigorous Admissions Process
  ■ Admitted 11 students in Fall 2005
  ■ Currently 56 students
    ■ 63% students of color
    ■ 17% male

■ 85% retention rate
  ■ Cohort Model
  ■ Average GPA 3.3
  ■ Average GPA of inaugural class 3.7
  ■ EBI Residence Hall Survey
    ■ IUE ratings among the highest 4 degree programs
Program Innovations

- Communication: Early and Often
- Modeling Best Practices: Building Community
- Cohort Model
- Midterm Meetings
- Seminar course each semester
- Increased clinical opportunities
- High Expectations
- *New: Summer College Immersion
I was so nervous that I was going to be thrown into a classroom of 100 students with a teacher who couldn’t remember my name if I told it to him everyday all semester... I am so happy that my classes are with my new found family...

...so you build a relationship with these people and they become your support system and they help you to get your work done and we make sure that we are all staying on track and doing our best.

The professors know me, and I know them. I know that they want me to succeed.

I believe that we have much higher standards than "regular" programs. And rightly so. If we are going to be the leaders and mentors of tomorrow's leaders then we should be held to higher standards. I believe that our students are more successful than other students because we are required to be.
For more information about IUE:
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