

MILLSAPS COLLEGE

February 20, 2011

Dr. Frank Serio, Department Head
Department of Mathematics
Northwestern State University of Louisiana
153 Kyser Hall
Natchitoches, LA 71497

Professor Serio,

I'm writing to let you know how excited I am that you are going to be working with us on the NSF Phase 2 CCLI grant (NSF-DUE-1020161). I have always been impressed with the mathematics majors from Northwestern State and hope that as we work together on this grant, designed to enhance learning in the gateway course to the mathematics major, that we can have some extended conversations about the types of experiences you provide for your majors.

I was very impressed with your program back in 2004 when I had the opportunity to conduct an external review of your department. At that time you had an exciting program in place and it seems that things have only gotten better. It seems that not a year goes by without one or more of your majors receiving recognition for their outstanding performance in the Louisiana-Mississippi Section of the Mathematical Association of America's student competition, as well as in the annual team competition. In fact I noted that just this past year, your students took two of the top three awards in the paper competition - that's simply outstanding! I know that Northwestern is a four year public university serving a number of students from underprivileged families and yet your students are outperforming students from our premier research institutions. What a great testimony to both your institution and your mathematics program!

I hope you will share with me some of the new things that are going on in your area and again, I am very much looking forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



Connie M. Campbell, Ph.D.
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