Postbaccalaureate and bridge programs in mathematics
organized by
Bernard Lidicky, Michael Young, and Eric Zaslow

Workshop Summary

The workshop had dual goals of creating/sharing best practices among postbaccalaureate and bridge programs, and connecting stakeholders of such programs to one another so that conversation and coordination could continue beyond the timeframe of the meeting. We feel these aims were achieved.

In joint sessions we discussed existing and past programs (Iowa State, Northwestern, Smith, UT Arlington, BAMM, NC State, Michigan) and fielded questions from participants, including those interested in starting up programs. We also held breakout sessions focusing on narrower topics: mentoring, admissions and recruiting, challenges, success stories, structural reactions to the pandemic.

Some concrete results from the workshop are nascent collaborations among programs. Several participants expressed plans to create regional enterprises where programs could dialogue and coordinate. Another plan is being discussed for future meetings among existing programs and their students, as a way of creating a super-cohort.

We have heard from participants that they enjoyed the conversations and introductions, and that the workshop was helpful to them as they continue to plan their postbac and bridge programs.