

The Journal of Mathematics and Science:

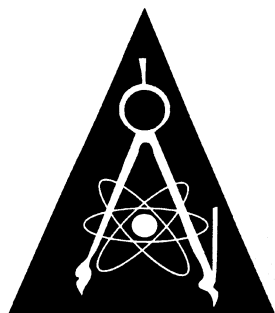
COLLABORATIVE EXPLORATIONS

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SPECIAL ISSUE

NSF-sponsored Conference

The Integral Role of the Two-Year College in the Science
and Mathematics Preparation of Prospective Teachers



Virginia Mathematics and Science Coalition

National Alliance of State Science and Mathematics Coalitions

Editor's Note

This special issue of *The Journal of Mathematics and Science: Collaborative Explorations* is devoted to the proceedings of a National Science Foundation conference, conducted in Washington, D. C. on March 12-14, 1998. The conference, conducted by the Virginia Collaborative for Excellence in the Preparation of Teachers, was entitled *The Integral Role of the Two-Year College in the Science and Mathematics Preparation of Prospective Teachers*.

In order to better understand the outstanding contributions of certain community colleges to the preparation of teachers and to better understand what is possible in all community colleges, a national competition was conducted to identify eleven exemplary two-year college programs. Representatives of each of the winners in the competition were invited to participate in the conference and were recognized at the National Academy of Sciences. Papers from the recognized programs were solicited and reviewed through the normal reviewing process of the journal. They appear in this special issue.

Faculty and administrators from the recognized programs joined faculty and administrators from other two-year and four-year colleges, representatives from national disciplinary professional organizations, current K-12 teachers, and pre-service teachers from two-year colleges. They discussed ways to fully utilize community colleges in order to meet the need for a teaching force well prepared in science, mathematics, engineering and technology. The recommendations of this conference to the National Science Foundation are also included in this special issue.

