Harper College
Undergraduate Research

Department of Chemistry
William Rainey Harper College
18 October 2010
Challenges

- **Consortium to Create a Community College Undergraduate Research Center**: Partners Northwestern University, Oakton College and Harold Washington College.

  - NSF $3,000,000 Not Funded January 2004

- **Building a Culture of Scientific Inquiry at Community Colleges – Prototypes for a National Model**: Partners Northwestern University and Harold Washington College.

  - NSF $500,000 Not Funded Spring 2005
Success

• **Collaborative Research: 2YC-REU: Two-Year College Research Experience for Undergraduates Site**: Partners Harold Washington College.

    NSF CHE Award 0539816 $100,000 Fall 2005

• **Exploring New Models for Authentic Undergraduate Research with Two-Year College Students**: Partners The City Colleges of Chicago, Oakton College and The College of DuPage.

    NSF CHE Award 0629174 $2,700,000 Fall 2006
• NMR and IC were obtained with $190,000 of external grant money.

NSF-CCLI Award 0633315 $145,000 Spring 2007

• Approximately $110,000 was used for GC/MSs and HPLCs with a purchase value greater than $300,000.

Center of Excellence $110,000 Fall 2008
Student Benefits

• Approximately half of our students have participated in summer research programs.
• All of the students that have participated in the research program have gone on to pursue a four year degree in a STEM discipline.
• In the last four years, our research students have earned over $300,000 worth of scholarships to transfer institutions.
• Several former students are currently in STEM graduate programs and medical degree programs.
• Chemistry students in all course use the instrumentation.
The Future

• Initiating Undergraduate Research at Community Colleges
  Team Members: Judy Marwick, Roger House, David Clydesdale and Sam Levenson
  October 2010

• STEM Learning Communities at the City Colleges of Chicago: The Role of Community in Degree Completion
  NSF Submitted $2,000,000 Fall 2010

• Building a culture of undergraduate research throughout campus