

FACTS ABOUT COSMOS

- ◆ The governor and state legislators have allocated \$2 million annually since 2000 for operations and staffing of COSMOS. Funding for future years looks promising.
- ◆ Corporate and private donors contributed \$431,500 to COSMOS in 2001. To date, an additional \$423,000 has been raised for the 2002 program. Donations support activities such as student scholarships, stipends for TransAmerica Fellow high school teachers, the statewide evaluation, and a variety of special projects. Additionally, a permanent scholarship endowment of \$327,000 has been raised.
- ◆ Nearly one-half (46%) of the 2001 COSMOS students received full or partial financial aid to pay for their \$1,050 tuitions.
- ◆ Forty of California's 58 counties were represented in COSMOS in 2001—nearly 70% of the state.
- ◆ Of the 313 students that participated in 2001, 27% were underrepresented minorities. This number compares favorably to the UC system's fall freshman admission figures of 19% underrepresented minority students.
- ◆ In 2001, 165 females and 148 males participated in COSMOS—an encouraging balance of the two genders.
- ◆ Student response to the overall quality and value of their experience has been very favorable, with 81% rating it a “very valuable” to “outstanding experience” in their lives. Students gave many inspiring examples of the ways COSMOS has helped to clarify and direct their academic and career goals and helped to boost their confidence, maturity, and social skills.
- ◆ COSMOS sponsored 20 high school TransAmerica Fellows with private funding to work in the University teaching and research environment and acquire background on current topics and issues in mathematics and science. Fellows also serve important support and instructional roles for students during the summer program.
- ◆ Statewide, a total of 23 innovative courses reflecting some of the most important national and international topics in mathematics and science were designed to engage high school students in the culture and practice of science inquiry and research. An impressive number of faculty and graduate students from university departments have devoted planning and instructional time to the COSMOS effort.
- ◆ The future of COSMOS looks bright. It has a talented statewide staff and high quality programs at UC Davis, UC Irvine, and UC Santa Cruz. The demand for COSMOS is growing along with expanding possibilities to support and engage its alumni along the educational pipeline.