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A Headstart

07.16.2013 | Engineering, Students, Culture and Society

More than two dozen incoming minority students from around the nation and Puerto Rico are getting a headstart on their STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) careers on the University of Dayton's campus this week.

The Minority STEM Summer Bridge Program — a free weeklong residential program — includes courses in calculus, chemistry and physics taught by University faculty members. The week also features sessions on learning styles; orientation to college life and campus support services; activities to build group cohesiveness; and opportunities for interaction with the wider campus community. During one morning session, the students brainstormed designs and made prosthetic legs.

The week culminates with a dinner with STEM professionals, which will be keynoted by Huntley Myrie, president of Nexcelle, a joint venture of GE's Middle River Aircraft Systems and the Safran group's Aircelle. The closing dinner and keynote talk are scheduled for 6-8 p.m. on Friday, July 19, in the Kennedy Union Ballroom.

Support from the Virginia W. Kettering Foundation, the School of Engineering and the College of Arts and Sciences funds the program, now in its seventh year.

For more information, contact Laura Bistrek, director of the Minority and Women Engineering Programs in the University of Dayton's School of Engineering, at 937-229-2407.