

Abstract Submitted
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GRAD-MAP: A Joint Physics and Astronomy Diversity Initiative at the University of Maryland¹ PETER MEGSON, NEIL ANDERSON, KATIE JAMESON, LORA PRICE, GARETH ROBERG-CLARK, ZEEVE ROGOSZINKSI, KYLE SHEPPARD, CORBIN TAYLOR, TIM UHER, ASHLEE WILKINS, DONNA HAMMER, University of Maryland — Graduate Resources for Advancing Diversity with Maryland's Astronomy and Physics (GRAD-MAP), builds connections between UMD and mid-Atlantic HBCUs, Minority-Serving Institutions, and community colleges, and uses seminars, forums, and workshops to foster a diverse community of undergraduates prepared to succeed in graduate school, and is now in its third year. GRAD-MAP launched with a three-pronged approach: 1) Collaborative Seminars, 2) A Winter Workshop, and 3) A Spring Symposium. This program allows GRAD-MAP to do more than just increase the numbers of minority students participating in astronomy and physics research (or, worse, simply shuffle around students who already are or would be); it is committed to identifying students who are otherwise underserved or overlooked by the traditional academic pipeline, not only to get them on the path to be successful undergraduate researchers and eventual graduate applicants, but also to make the climate of academic physics and astronomy more inclusive to them and all other underrepresented minority students. We will describe the key elements of our program, and highlight successes and lessons learned; GRAD-MAP can serve as a model for other universities committed to diversity and inclusion.

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