

962-H1-1316

**Sindhu Unnithan** and **Paul R McCreary\*** (pmccrear@xula.edu), Department of Mathematics, Xavier University, One Drexel Drive, New Orleans, LA 70125. *Extra Credit Sessions Mingling Students from Two Different Courses, a Developmental Algebra Review Course and a Pre-calculus Course*. Preliminary report.

What are the teaching and learning opportunities to be found in a series of extra credit sessions for students and faculty? To ours we invited students from different level classes, namely a developmental Algebra Review course and the subsequent course, Pre-calculus. Students formed study groups, volunteered to tutor their peers, and organized group presentations. We feel we were able to identify and engage several students who are likely future student research interns. We were able, in some cases, to make contact with the students' senses of responsibility towards their peers. In the context of these sessions, we were able to increase participation by first-year students in activities usually reserved for instructors or more senior students. We will report on how interaction among students at several levels lead to positive opportunities and on pitfalls we intend to avoid in the future. We address these and other issues in the preliminary report on our investigations at Xavier University of Louisiana. (Received October 03, 2000)