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This past summer Messiah College hosted the first Boyer Math and Computer Science Academy for 18 young women entering grades 9 through 12. Positive feedback about the program has been received from parents, students, and cooperating teachers from local districts.

The purpose of the Academy is to encourage talented young people to continue to study mathematics, science, and computer science in the high school and undergraduate education. Many students, both male and female, drop out of mathematics and computer science courses in their high school years and therefore prematurely close the doors to careers in these fields. The Boyer Academies seek to provide summer learning experiences for students in the community, including those from populations that are under represented in careers in mathematical sciences.

In order to build on the success of the first Boyer Academy, there are three academies planned for Summer 2001. Growing pains are currently being experienced as funding is being pursued and curriculum is being revised. The development process and implementation of the program can be gargantuan tasks. By sharing what has been experienced in the birth of this program, others may be encouraged to consider similar programs at their own institutions. (Received September 13, 2000)