Manuel P. Berriozábal* (manuel.berriozabal@utsa.edu), Department of Mathematics, University of Texas at San Antonio, San Antonio, Texas, TX 78207. The San Antonio Prefreshman Engineering Program Turns 30 - A Retrospective.

In 1979, the San Antonio Prefreshman Engineering Program (or SAPREP) began its first summer of operation at the University of Texas at San Antonio in response to the challenge of low academic expectations from the minority community, primarily Mexican-American, in San Antonio. SAPREP is a seven week, summer, mathematics-based academic enrichment program designed to identify achieving middle school and high school students and preparing them for college studies and careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. The program focuses on the development of abstract reasoning skills and problem-solving skills, and emphasizes the learning of academic content over the learning of processes. Over a three summer sequence, the participants learn topics in mathematics usually reserved for beginning upper division mathematics majors beginning with basic mathematical logic and some immediate applications, algebraic structures, and statistics. The students also engage in small group activities in engineering and physics. Over 13,000 middle school and high school students have completed at least one summer of SAPREP. Beginning in 1986, SAPREP has been replicated throughout Texas in other community and senior colleges, and since 1997 in other states. (Received September 07, 2009)