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Thomas W Judson* (judsontw@sfasu.edu), Department of Mathematics and Statistics, Stephen F. Austin State University, P.O. Box 13040-3040 SFA Station, Nacogdoches, TX 75962, Lesa L Beverly, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, Stephen F. Austin State University, P.O. Box 13040-3040 SFA Station, Nacogdoches, TX 75962, and Kimberly M Childs, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, Stephen F. Austin State University, P.O. Box 13040-3040 SFA Station, Nacogdoches, TX 75962. The Texas Leadership Initiative and Texas LIMIT Projects: Training the Trainers. Preliminary report.

The Texas Leadership Initiative and Texas Leadership Initiative: Mathematics Instruction Transformed (Texas LIMIT) Projects, conducted through the Stephen F. Austin State University (SFASU) STEM Research and Learning Center, are NSF-sponsored programs to develop effective mathematics teacher leaders within high needs districts across East Texas. The objectives of these projects include developing leadership skills through: (1) training in differentiated instruction designed for diverse populations within schools; (2) training in the development and delivery of quality professional development within respective districts; (3) assisting in the assimilation and development of modules/materials; and (4) studying the effectiveness of efforts to train teacher-leaders. We will present an overview of the SFASU STEM Research and Learning Center together with the Leadership and LIMIT projects. (Received September 19, 2010)