

1067-97-755

Steven William Anderson* (steven.anderson@unco.edu), MAST Institute, The University of Northern Colorado, Greeley, CO 80639. *New Goals and Associated Changes at the Mathematics and Science Teaching (MAST) Institute at the University of Northern Colorado (UNC).*

MAST recently implemented significant changes to better position itself for influencing STEM education on a regional and national level. Originally designed to support and coordinate the STEM preparation of students and teachers, MAST has struggled to maintain its historically strong influence in northern Colorado. In 2007 under a new director, MAST refocused its mission to concentrate on a single goal; to assemble a support team that allows UNC faculty and off-campus partners to engage in a range of mathematics and science education outreach and research projects not previously possible at UNC, or at other competing institutes of higher education. To accomplish this objective, 2 state-funded positions were reclassified, and new hires now accomplish duties tied to these goals. Three critical soft-money positions now assist faculty with project develop. These changes allowed us to increase our external funding by over 20-fold and support a number of highly visible research, outreach, and scholarship/internship programs that reflect well upon the university. We are working with a record number of UNC STEM faculty and off-campus partners. A key element in attracting the best personnel involved writing contracts that allowed for supplemental grant work. (Received September 14, 2010)