**PRISM at Texas Tech**  
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**About TTU**  
Texas Tech is a growing public research university with about 31,600 students and several related STEM outreach initiatives including:

- SPMS
- ISISP
- GK-12
- (MS)²
- SUMAC
- WTMSMP
- HHMI/CISER
- Noyce Scholars

**Project Goals**
- Attract bright students to enroll as math and biology majors at TTU.
- Mentor students toward careers in mathematical and biological sciences through special coursework and research experiences.
- Increase the number of degrees earned in mathematical and biological sciences by students from underrepresented groups.

**Key Features of our Project**
- Cohorts of 12 math and biology majors
- Summer research camp
  - Field trips
  - Short-term research projects
  - Cohort-building activities
  - Includes 6 high school seniors
- Special coursework for freshmen
  - Calculus I with biology (fall)
  - Freshmen seminar (fall)
  - Computational biology (spring)
- Research for Sophomores
  - Mentoring by math/biology faculty teams
  - Presentation of research at conferences

**Challenges**
- Seamlessly integrating math/biology faculty research
- Enforcing Calculus I requirement for freshmen
- Selecting the best biology majors

**Lessons Learned**
- Engage scholarship system in recruiting (17 out of 30 students from under-represented groups)
- Leverage other STEM outreach programs
- Hire grant administrator with M.B.A and math B.A.

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