Auction
High Achievers is a program for academically talented students currently in grades 9-12 who are seeking to earn college credit while still in high school. Sixty (60) students (28 males, 32 females) participated in the 2013 program. The resident component, added to the program summer 2010, didn’t have enough participants to run summer in 2013. Twelve (12) students were in 9th grade, thirty-four (34) in 10th, thirteen (13) in 11th grade, and one (1) in 12th grade.

Funding
The Michigan State Provost Office, the W.B. and Candice Thoman Foundation and the Dorothy Lawshe Endowment provide funds for program implementation, instructor summer wages, and student scholarships. Student tuition provides all additional funding of the program. Each student, grades 9-11, receives a university funded scholarship that covers the difference in life-long learner credit and in-coming undergraduate credit costs. University scholarships granted for 2013 came to a total of $29,700. The Thoman Foundation provides up to $7,000 scholarship funding, the Lawshe Endowment up to $6,000 in scholarship funding.

Objectives
The High Achievers program provides high school students with basic college courses. Those enrolled in this program will complete an honors-level college course at Michigan State University in four weeks, starting a transcript at MSU. It gives students an opportunity to be challenged in a college environment that does not conflict with the regular academic school year. Students enrolling in High Achievers plan to attend institutes of higher education before participating in the program.

Description
Four honors level courses are offered. The 2013 High Achievers program includes: three-credit courses in Biotechnology (CSS 491H), Introduction to Philosophy (PHL 200H), Introduction to Microeconomics (EC 201H), and a four-credit course in Introduction to Psychology (PSY 101H). Students attend class Monday-Thursday, 9:00 AM-noon. All classes are instructed by MSU professors renowned in their area of study. Total contact time: 64 hours.

Outcomes
Post-program evaluation of the 2013 High Achievers program:
• 98% of the students felt that they could complete a college degree after completing their High Achievers course,
• 100% of the students felt that the High Achievers program better prepared them for college,
• 100% of the students stated that they felt their course was interesting.

In 2013, 52 students received a 4.0, 4 students earned a 3.5 and 4 students received a 3.0 in their course.

Student comments included:
"I like that this program gave us an early college experience and allowed us to try something new ahead of time."
"I enjoyed the diversity of the course content, learning through lecture some hours while participating in ethical debates another."
"I really liked our professor and the class. I really looked forward to class and being involved in such a positive environment."

Additional Significant Information
This is the 27th year of the High Achievers program. Each January, a colloquium is held for qualifying students on the MSU campus. In 2013, over 200 people attended this event.

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