

TITLE: Advancing Mathematics Faculty Diversity at the University of California, Riverside

YEAR: 2018-2019 Academic Year

BUDGET: \$500,000

INVESTIGATORS: Yat Sun Poon, Professor of Mathematics

ABSTRACT:

This project builds on successful aspects of previous Advancing Faculty Diversity initiatives and enhances prior programs in significant ways. As a pilot unit in the first year of this initiative, UCR initiated a highly successful Provost's Diversity in Engineering Fellows program. The current interventions build on the first year program elements of attractive, targeted advertisements; use of the Statement of Contributions to Diversity as an initial rather than later selection criterion; a boost to the candidate's research career through an additional year of funded research training anywhere in the U.S. while having a tenure track position secured; and support and mentoring throughout from their UCR base. The Mathematics project will also use the tools afforded by applying through UC Recruit rather than MathJobs, making a significant difference to the ability to monitor and boost development of a diverse pool of applicants; host a symposium early in the Fall quarter to showcase both the diversity of the campus and the quality of the Mathematics Department to attract more applications from prospective URM faculty; and implement specific mentoring to develop skills for teaching mathematics to first generation students. There is a strong commitment by the leadership to support the project.