

## APPENDIX IV

### HOUSTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM

April 17, 2001



Dr. Harriet Taylor  
Dr. Diane Jones  
CSEMS Co-Leaders, DUE  
National Science Foundation  
4201 Wilson Blvd., Suite 835  
Arlington, VA 22230

Dear Dr. Taylor and Dr. Jones,

The Houston Community College System (HCCS) is a public and comprehensive community college serving a population of 3.2 million in the nation's 4<sup>th</sup> largest city. HCCS is designated as a minority institution and as an Hispanic-serving institution by the U.S. Department of Education and is currently implementing a NSF-CSEMS Program. HCCS has learned about the effort of the University of Houston – Clear Lake (UHCL) for submitting a proposal to the NSF-CSEMS program and would like to support their effort.

UHCL has 2+2 articulation agreements with HCCS as well as other community colleges in Houston which outline the first two years of work to be completed at the community college and the last two years of work to be completed at UHCL. The transfer plans are guides to recommended course work to aid students in transferring to UHCL. HCCS students are encouraged to work closely with UHCL counseling offices to prepare for a smooth transfer. This arrangement has been successful and beneficial to students at both institutions.

We have met with Drs. Kwok-Bun Yue and Sharon Hall, the PI and Co-PI of UHCL NSF-CSEMS proposal and have agreed to form tighter cooperation to provide more value to HCCS and UHCL NSF CSEMS scholars. We have agreed on the following activities.

- UHCL NSF scholars program faculty mentors will meet with HCCS NSF scholars to promote their programs.
- HCCS will assist UHCL in promoting its NSF scholar program.
- HCCS NSF scholars may participate in UHCL industrial programs.
- HCCS NSF scholars will have access to UHCL NSF scholars program faculty mentors.
- HCCS and UHCL scholars program will share appropriate information about scholars transferring from HCCS to UHCL.
- Being a HCCS NSF scholar will improve the chance of the student being awarded as an UHCL NSF scholar.

P.O. Box 667517, Houston, TX 77266-7517

We believe this cooperation will significantly enhance the values of both HCCS and UHCL NSF CSEMS programs. It will improve UHCL's ability to attract quality applicants, especially those underrepresented in computer science, mathematics and engineering. HCCS fully supports UHCL's effort in pursuing their NSF scholar program. If I can provide additional information, please call me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Andy R. Montez", with a stylized flourish extending from the end.

Andy Montez, Director  
Department of Resource Development  
Houston Community College System

Cc: Jagdish John  
Jose Villarreal