

**Difference in Pay Leave Report**  
**Ben Ford, Department of Mathematics and Statistics**  
**Academic Year 2019–2020**

10 August 2020

My application for a DIP Leave for 2019–20 proposed different activities depending on the success of a grant application. The application was funded by the NSF, so my approved DIP plan was to fully devote myself to that project. *Make Math REAL: Realize Equity to Activate Learners* (henceforth *MMR*) is a three-year collaborative project between SSU and the Lawrence Hall of Science at UC Berkeley. Total funding is \$1.2 million, approximately evenly split between SSU and UC Berkeley.

The launch of *MMR* was quite successful. We successfully won approval for all program aspects from UC Berkeley’s and SSU’s IRBs; recruited all teacher developer teams; initiated all consultant and teacher contracts; and completed pilot drafts of all curriculum products.

School shutdowns in March necessitated the postponement of pilot testing, and thus the postponement of field testing, which was to occur in academic year 2020–21. But *MMR* is well on its way. New timeline adjustments given COVID impacts are currently under discussion with UC Berkeley and the NSF.

An additional project in Fall 2019 was (with colleagues Brigitte Lahme and Omayra Ortega) writing and submitting an additional NSF grant application, which was subsequently funded. *Transformative Inclusion in Postsecondary STEM: Towards Justice* is a \$2.2 million, five-year project to design and test a TIPS Pathway for STEM departments to follow as they transform their practice to embrace the “Serving” aspect of their “Hispanic-Serving Institution” designation.

Finally, I was invited to serve this past year as a member of the five-person writing team for the 2021 State of California Mathematics Framework, a document that guides mathematics instruction in California K–12 schools. It is exciting work that will continue through the 2020–21 year.