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The [American Journal of Rising Scholar Activities](#) is published by Purdue University for the dissemination of experiential activities involving the Purdue Rising Scholars students using the Digital Commons framework. These students have been recruited under a National Science Foundation grant to investigate the experiences of low socio-economic students with strong mentoring support networks pursuing STEM degrees in higher education at a state-supported institution. Twenty-one students were enrolled over a three year period and provided with a partial scholarship and a defined path through the university that emphasized contact with Rising Scholar program administration, university faculty, and support staff. Students were given counseling about the collegiate experience that would have been unavailable in their previous educational and family circles, and they were deliberately enrolled in activities that provided them with functional contact to a variety of potential mentors. These activities included a preliminary academic boot camp from the Purdue University Minority Engineering Program (MEP), annual seminars for each class, a faculty-directed research program from the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (LSAMP), a self-directed multidisciplinary engineering research fellowship (MERF), and an internship. Extra-curricular activities for the Rising Scholar students included special weekend events, dinners, and social gatherings. This journal provides individual insight into their specific experiential experiences. More details about our journal are provided at [Home](#).