Abstract:

The City University of New York (CUNY), the lead university of the NYC I-Corps Node and now NY I-Corps Hub, led the first ever NSF I-Corps Broadening Participation and Inclusion Summit. The major focus of the summit, held on October 3-5, 2018, was approaches to increasing women and BIPOC representation in innovation, entrepreneurship, commercialization, and the lean-startup methodologies associated with NSF’s Innovation Corps (I-Corps) Program.

The Summit brought together representatives of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs), Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSI), I-Corps Nodes, I-Corps Site personnel. In addition, it included researchers in the fields of inclusiveness and entrepreneurship, and, leadership from organizations serving the target population who can help innovation and entrepreneurship to their members such as the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE), the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE), and the Society of Women Engineers (SWE). Numerous opportunities were structured to enhance networking and collaborations between attendees.

This presentation will describe the Inclusion Summit model in three parts: (1) outreach and organizational strategy; (2) activities and sessions hosted; (3) specific goals accomplished. We will report on specific outcomes, including the first Culturally Relevant Economic Development I-Corps. Participants will learn insights into the impacts that programs like I-Corps have had on individuals and institutions in establishing successful alliances.

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