

Computing Beyond the Double Bind: Women of Color in Computing Education and Careers

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Eureka Scientific, Inc., in collaboration with TERC, seeks to advance the understanding of social and cultural factors that increase retention of women of color in computing. Computing is unique because it ranks as one of the STEM fields that is least populated by women of color; in fact, their representation in computing is decreasing, while representation of women of color is increasing in nearly every other STEM field, and national job prospects in technology fields are rapidly increasing, too. Project staff will conduct an in-depth study of programs that have successfully served women of color in the computing fields and will conduct formal interviews with 15 professional women of color who have thrived in computing to learn about their educational strategies. The staff will also implement a small-scale intervention that will be modeled on evidence-based best practices of mentoring and networking. The project will illuminate individual and programmatic strategies that enable women of color to participate more fully and in greater numbers.