

best *in class*

In the 1960s, Professor Bob Moses led voter registration drives in Mississippi. Today this legendary civil rights activist leads the Algebra Project, an initiative devoted to improving minority education in math.



Faculty

On the Algebra Project:

I created the program in Mississippi in the early 1980s. It's about getting students at the bottom of the educational society to demand their education. Math should not be an obstacle to higher education or to a career choice.

Bringing the Algebra Project to Miami:

In the fall of 2006, we began working with a cohort of students at Edison High School. They've agreed to take math 90 minutes a day, every day, for four years of high school. Additionally, they spend six weeks every summer at FIU in a residential program.

We're trying to learn what to teach and how to teach it so that the students are willing to do it. We're working with some of the best research mathematicians in the country.

The importance of the Algebra Project's work in Miami:

We think of our work at FIU as really seminal. We're asking the questions, What does it take for a student who is not making it to succeed? What is the role of the public university to provide leadership in educating low-performing public school students? We hope to develop a model of partnership which can be used by universities and school systems throughout the country.

My dream:

I have a dream for the country that deals with the preamble to the Constitution. The question is, who are 'We, the people'? My dream is to keep expanding our ideas about democracy so that *all* children in our country – poor, immigrant, or limited English speakers – can become part of 'We, the people,' particularly for the purposes of their education.

Professor Bob Moses

Eminent Scholar, College of Education, Center for Urban Education & Innovation
Harlem born and Harvard educated, Prof. Moses is a MacArthur "Genius" Fellow

“There's something here at FIU that students really find compelling.”



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