About the Director
Marijuana Sawyer-Clardy is the director of the Future Teacher Program/Minority Teacher Program and coordinator for Recruitment and Retention Programs for the College of Education and Professional Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater. Sawyer-Clardy is an alumna of the university, having graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in education. She holds a master’s degree in higher education administration and is currently working on her Ph.D. in higher education leadership. A true believer in “each one reach one,” Sawyer-Clardy is currently endowing the Marijuana Pepsi Sawyer scholarship for low-income minority students graduating from Beloit Memorial High School in Beloit, Wis., who plan to attend UW-Whitewater.

Contact Us
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This Summer Institute was beyond anything I thought it would be. Connecting with people who have the same goals as you is more rewarding than anything. I truly feel like I have a family here.

Nikole
Special Education

Mission
To increase the retention and graduation of diverse students in the teaching profession and of students seeking licensure in STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) education and other academic disciplines experiencing teaching shortages.

Eligibility
Our programs serve declared teacher education majors who meet at least one of the following criteria:
1. Minority students
2. Students of all ethnicities seeking licensure in STEM disciplines or other high-need licensure disciplines, including:
   - Biology
   - Chemistry
   - English as a Second Language/Bilingual/Bicultural
   - Library Media
   - Math
   - Men in Early Childhood Education
   - Physics
   - Speech Pathology
   - Special Education

I just feel like I’m needed out there. It’s important for children to see positive role models that are of different races, especially if you’re a minority and you don’t have someone to look up to.

Abie
2013 Program Graduate

High-impact Programs
Students in the Future Teacher Program/Minority Teacher Program gain a helping hand and receive a road map for the academic and professional requirements they must fulfill. They participate in high-impact academic programming and transformational learning experiences aimed at promoting student success. Activities include:
- Summer Institute
- Early experiences in schools
- Learning Community
- Service learning projects
- Praxis1/PPST course
- Study abroad
- Praxis 1/PPST practice tests
- Employment and internship opportunities
- Undergraduate research
- Men in Early Childhood Education
- Men in Early Childhood Bilingual/Bicultural

Program Goals
The Future Teacher Program/Minority Teacher Program builds a bridge from the dream of teaching to the opportunity held by a graduate ready to teach. The program’s goal is to increase numbers of:
1. Minority graduates who are licensed to teach
2. Graduates licensed to teach in STEM disciplines
3. Graduates licensed in subjects with teacher shortages

What Our Students Say
“"The program focuses on the actual needs/wants of students, not on what other people think the students need."
   - Jenny

“I would highly recommend this program to incoming freshman for education majors. Everything that was taught was highly useful to me. I was assigned a mentor for this program. Jenna was amazing! She answered all of my questions and gave great advice to us.”
   - A.S.

“"The team building activities were a great way to get to know people and learn simple and easy things to do with a classroom in the future!"
   - Hailey

“This was such a helpful and useful experience to be a part of! I will never forget this experience and all of my new friends I made here! It was the best way to ease into my freshman year and to kick off my first semester here at UW-Whitewater!”
   - Raquel

“This is the best program ever!”
   - Betsy