2008 BRITE-IDEA INVENTION CAMP

On June 9th-13th, 2008 Florida A&M University conducted its fourth Summer Invention Camp for middle and high school students from schools throughout Leon and surrounding counties. Approximately thirty students had the opportunity to learn, firsthand, the complete process of taking an idea from conception to the marketplace. During this week-long camp, the students learn creative and inventive thinking, how to innovate and invent; determine if their ideas have already been disclosed by others through “prior art” searches; and discover ways to protect and market their novel developments. Invention and innovation is learned within the context of learning practical Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM). One of the basic premises of the camp is after the students become knowledgeable about the world of intellectual property and how ideas can be transferred to the market place, they will make significant contributions to the innovation enterprise and, in some instances, seriously consider careers in science, technology, engineering (STEM) and business and patent law.