STAIRSTEP

Lamar University New Student Orientation
July 16 and July 19, 2014

• On July 16 and 19, 2014, the PH STAIRSTEP student Keeley Townley-Smith set up and manned a booth at Lamar’s New Student Orientation Student Organization Fair. Set up time was from 8-9 a.m. and incoming and prospective students stopped at the booth from 9 to 10am. Keeley talked with ten students and four parents on Wednesday. On Saturday July 19, 2014, Keeley talked with 20 students and 5 parents.

STAIRSTEP hosted a booth at the university’s New Student Orientation Fair on July 16, 2014 and July 19, 2014. I talked with passing by students about the physics, computer science, and mathematics departments. Flyers were laid out on the table. Small physics demos were set out on the table including two spectrometers, one laser, polarizers, 3D glasses and a bird balancing on its beak. The bird balancing on its beak caught the attention of passing students and caused students to stop. In the past, we have used the Van de Graff machine to grab people’s attention and I think that would have worked great for this event too. Unfortunately, I didn’t have the time to get it. I did have more people leave their contact info this time. In the past, we have only had a couple. On Wednesday, we had four people filling out there information, which is pretty good considering I was only out there for an hour, and on Saturday, I had two more people. Most students and parents stopped by during the first thirty minutes of the event and not many stopped by during the last half on Wednesday. On Saturday, there was a constant stream of students coming through the Setzer Center. All of the STAIRSTEP pamphlets were gone by the end of Saturday’s Organization Fair. Students in attendance were a mix of engineering, business, and psychology majors. As usual, music inside the Setzer Center was loud so it was hard to talk and listen to students. A lot of parents were really interested in the program for their kids and several students expressed interest in joining STAIRSTEP. One girl was so enthusiastic about joining STAIRSTEP that she said she would switch her major! Her mom wasn’t as enthusiastic and quickly moved her away from the booth. The event was very successful overall and I look forward to doing it next summer for the Society of Physics Students!