FOCUS, which stands for “FOCusing on C ultivating Scientists,” is in its second year of operation at Carleton. **FOCUS is designed for students interested in science and interested in promoting diversity in the sciences.** FOCUS supports students through their entry into the study of science/math at Carleton and as they continue in the curriculum by creating a cohort which enrolls in classes together (in so far as this makes sense), meets regularly in a colloquium throughout the first year, and has an opportunity for work study in the sciences.

A FOCUS student’s first-year program includes the following

**Fall term**
- A science based first year seminar; for 2008: **PSYC 100: Brain, Mind & Body** – 6 credits
- FOCUS colloquium – 2 credits
- 2 additional courses of student’s choice – 12 cr. (likely including 1 math course)

**Winter term**
- Math or science course* – 6 credits
- FOCUS colloquium – 2 credits
- 2 additional courses of student’s choice – 12 credits

**Spring term**
- Math or science course* - 6 credits
- FOCUS colloquium – 2 credits
- 2 additional course of student’s choice – 12 credits

**Benefits for FOCUS students include the following:**
1. Membership in a cohort of science-interested students in first-year seminar.
2. Placement into science-based first-year seminar in fall term.
3. FOCUS coordinator, a science/math faculty member, organizing events, publicizing opportunities, and working directly with student participants
4. Priority registration into intro science or math courses in winter and spring terms
5. Full-year colloquium taught by FOCUS coordinator with an emphasis on science-based activities, projects, research opportunities, and field trips as well as on strategies for success at Carleton. Students earn credits equivalent to a single course distributed over the year, creating a “cushion” for future terms in which students may want to take a reduced load.
6. Personalized science advising with FOCUS coordinator in addition to regular academic advising.
7. Student mentors available for science/math courses in which FOCUS students are enrolled
8. Work-study opportunities in the science/math areas for approximately 50% of work contract
9. Targeted recruiting for summer opportunities.

**Interested in becoming a part of FOCUS?** Check **PSYC 100: Brain, Mind & Body** as your first choice and answer the pertinent questions.