Cal State Northridge’s library has been awarded a five-year $1.6 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education to bolster student success by strengthening the library’s outreach to the Latino community.

The Northridge campus covers 353 acres, including 65 acres on the adjoining North Campus, in the heart of the San Fernando Valley. The university has about two million square feet of facilities, including some two dozen major buildings and more than 100 total structures.

More than 380 junior high and high school students from the San Fernando Valley and Los Angeles area recently got an opportunity to get their research published with the help of Cal State Northridge biology professor Steven Oppenheimer. Each year, Oppenheimer publishes the Journal of Student Research Abstract. This year’s journal contains 37 research abstracts in such areas as astronomy, comparison, environmental biology, vertebrate biology and physics.

With the help of a $1.2 million grant from NASA, Cal State Northridge’s College of Science and Mathematics is preparing minority students for careers in scientific research. The program, Partnership Awards for the Integration of Research, provides a unique opportunity for a selected handful of students to take intense, between-semester courses on such topics as data analysis and to work alongside faculty and JPL scientists conducting research.