

This is a 2008 RT listserv message. Remember, if you want to respond to an individual, do not use the "Reply" button. Instead, use the "Forward" button and cut-and-paste the individual's email address in the "To" field.

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2008 RT NEWS 4 – May 23, 2008
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1. RT Program News
2. Deadlines
3. Alumni RT Corner
3. Resources
4. Opportunities
5. Listserv Info

1. RT PROGRAM NEWS

Congratulations on finishing up WISE Assignment #1 this past week! Your reflections and the discussions are engaging, and your perspectives are great. Keep up the good work with Assignment #2, which you should have received by postal mail last week. See last week's RT News 3 for additional web-based resources on Equity and Diversity. Also note, for the online WISE assignments, please try to complete each component of an activity if there are multiple fields for multiple questions (like in your Reflection on Assignment #1).

In the next few weeks via this listserv and on the 2008 RT website, you'll be introduced to your Mentor crew. They have been past RTs like you, and have continued in a variety of other APS professional development opportunities throughout the years.

We hope you have a meaningful, reflective, and restful Memorial Day Weekend!

On the horizon:

- a. If not already, many of you will be starting in your Research Host's (RH) lab on June 2nd or in the weeks following! Anxious and excited?! See the Alumni RT Corner below for some words of wisdom from past RTs. Also, you'll soon be receiving instructions on composing a **1-page research description** for the kind of research you and your RH are doing.
- b. Don't forget, that after a 3-week period in the lab, please complete, sign with your RH, and fax or email back a **Stipend Payment Voucher Form**. Our Office Manager, Brooke Bruthers, will email you to confirm receipt of your first stipend voucher.
- c. The **Science Teaching Forum** (a.k.a. STF or the "Forum") is right around the corner, July 21-27! An important **Travel Memo** is coming. Watch for it, but **DON'T BOOK TRAVEL UNTIL YOU READ THROUGH IT**. Carefully review Section IV of the Travel Memo. **If you decide to make a reservation directly with an airline with significant savings, please contact Brooke before making any purchase or you will NOT be reimbursed.** Airfares continue to increase and we must watch the costs carefully. If you have any questions or hesitations, please get in touch with Brooke first! (bbruthers@the-aps.org).

QUICK LINKS

2008 RT website: <http://www.the-aps.org/education/2008rts/index.shtml>

Past RT News updates: <http://www.the-aps.org/education/2008rts/listserv.shtml>

Assignments for WISE, the Web-based Inquiry Science Environment: <http://wise.berkeley.edu/>

2. DEADLINES

- Monday, June 9: Assignment #2
- Monday, June 16: Travel Plans for the Science Teaching Forum (July 21-27). Please, DO NOT make any arrangements yet. More detailed information on making travel arrangements will be coming shortly!

3. ALUMNI RT CORNER

- On the fellowship experience from Diana Despain (2002 Frontiers, 2004

Mentor/Instructor): *"Enjoy every minute of the fellowship experience because it goes by so fast. You are so absorbed in the material and assignments that it will take you a year just to compress and reflect on it all. So soak it up, relax, and enjoy the incredible journey that the APS will take you on!"*

- **On starting in the research lab from Chris Schrenk (2004 Frontiers):** *"Communicate well and often with the researcher. Know the role that you want to play and what role the researcher expects of you. Make sure that you are on the same page on this."*

4. RESOURCES

...On joining a Research Lab

- Choosing a Good Scientific Mentor

<http://www.labmanager.com/articles.asp?pid=91>

This May 2007 article from the Lab Manager Magazine provides advice for graduate students in selecting a scientific mentor. For Research Teachers, this will help you get a glimpse of the culture and challenges that new scientists-in-training must face.

5. OPPORTUNITIES

...For Teachers

- **NABT 2008 Professional Development Conference**, Oct 15-18, 2008, Memphis, TN
Early-Bird Registration, Deadline: May 31: <http://www.nabt2008.org/>

- **NSTA 2008 Fall Area Conferences:**

- **Charlotte: Oct 30 - Nov 1:** <http://www.nsta.org/conferences/2008cha/>

- **Portland: Nov 20 -22:** <http://www.nsta.org/conferences/2008por/>

- **Cincinnati: Dec 4-6:** <http://www.nsta.org/conferences/2008por/>

6. LISTSERV INFORMATION

- We hope you will use the 2008 RT listserv to share resources and ideas and to ask questions of your fellow RTs. Please take a minute to review the information about how this listserv works at the 2008 RT website: <http://www.the-aps.org/education/2008rts/listserv.shtml>. Also listed on this page are your fellow RTs' email addresses, as well as each of these APS RT News in pdf form.

As always, feel free to directly contact Mel (mlimson@the-aps.org) in the APS Education Office with questions, suggestions or concerns.

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