

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 6 – June 6, 2008
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1. RT PROGRAM NEWS

a. TO DO NOW: Book your travel for the Science Teaching Forum!

Thanks to those who have already checked-in with Brooke to authorize your direct purchase of the airfare! For everyone else, please review last week's **APS RT News.05** for additional details:

<http://www.the-aps.org/education/2008rts/pdfs/APS%202008%20RT%20News.05.pdf>

Although we requested that flights be purchased by next Friday, 6/13, Brooke (and Mel, separately) will be out of the office next Thursday and Friday, so please try to scout out some flights this weekend or early next week.

b. ASSIGNMENTS:

WISE #2: Equity and Diversity: Seems like the Draw-A-Scientist Tests are quite enlightening from your students! Please continue to get the activities and discussions rolling on the WISE site no later than this Monday, June 9th. **Link for WISE**, the **Web-based Inquiry Science Environment**:

<http://wise.berkeley.edu/>

NEW TASK! We are using an online assessment on your learning style that will help us prepare for the Science Teaching Forum in July.

- Please take the following online survey from Washington University in St. Louis:

<http://cornerstone2.wustl.edu/learningTest.htm>

- Enter your name and email address at the bottom of the form so that you have a record for yourself.

- Forward by email your results to Mel (mlimson@the-aps.org) no later than June 16th [DO NOT reply to this listserv email address!].

- Finally, please keep your learning style a secret until we discuss this during the Forum...we will be making a game out of it! ;-)

WISE #3: Technology and Research: The package is on its way via postal mail with another useful gift for you! This assignment, your 1-page Research Description, and the first half of the "Thinking about Research Design" assignment are to be completed no later than June 30th. Assignment #3 requires a little more time than the previous assignments, so please don't wait until the last minute and don't feel overwhelmed! Don't forget that you'll receive a stipend for completing these first three Assignments and your 1-page Research Description ;-)

c. SUMMER RESEARCH EXPERIENCE: A majority of you have started or will be starting your first week in the research lab...congratulations! Feel free to use this moderated listserv as a discussion forum to share resources and ideas, and to ask questions of your fellow RTs. For questions/follow-ups to me (Mel), please email directly to me: mlimson@the-aps.org (again, don't hit the "Reply" button which goes to everyone on this listserv! **Please keep Mel posted of any lab schedule changes that you and your Research Host (RH) have mutually agreed upon, if they differ from the weeks you indicated on your Stipend Payment Information Form that was returned with your Letter of**

Agreement. REMINDER: After a 3-week period in the lab, please complete, sign with your RH, and fax back a **Stipend Payment Voucher Form** if funds are being disbursed from the APS. Brooke will email you to confirm receipt of your first stipend voucher.

d. MENTORS: Last week you met Tonya Smith from South Carolina as one of your Mentor/Instructors. This week, we go to Florida and hear from **Isabelle Camille**:

"Ouf! Ouf! Triple OUF!!! School is over! Turned in my grades today and left my room clean, and ready for the New Year! Now the wonderful preparation of the year long dialogue with all of you! Have you all started with your Research project? I hope you are not feeling too overwhelmed. Remember many of us went through it. You know what the best part of this experience was? To be in a situation where you are definitely NOT the expert! Best lesson in humility and patience I ever had. It truly helped me understand that it's OK for someone not to get a concept that seems so easy to me. As silly as this may sound when I had to explain a few times the concept of density, I used to feel "how dumb can they be!" Then after a few times of Dr. Dickenson explaining to me what a retrovirus was (with a bit of rightful impatience in the end ☺!), it dawned on me then that it's OK not to get something readily. I simply had to keep on looking for ways to help them understand, and they eventually will.

Anyway enjoy the experience. Learn, learn, learn! I am truly looking forward to meeting you all. Do prepare yourself for a wonderful, productive and stimulating summer both at your respective Research post and at the Science Teaching Forum at Airlie. Your association with the APS is one you will never regret, trust me. Do not hesitate to contact me if you have a question or concern. If I can't help, I'll be sure to direct you to the APS Education Office staff!! I'll be seeing you at Airlie! Come with an empty stomach and an empty suitcase! ;-)" -- Isabelle (1997 *Frontiers RT*, 2002, 2004, 2006 *Mentor/Instructor*)

2008 APS Mentor/Instructors

Tonya Smith, Sumter, SC: Mayewood Middle School
Isabelle Camille, Miami, FL: Coral Reef Senior High School
Robert Manriquez, Shreveport, LA: Stanley High School
Visit: <http://www.the-aps.org/education/2008rts/mentors.shtml>

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 (in addition to your summer research experience)

- **Monday, June 9:** Assignment #2: Equity & Diversity
- **Friday, June 13:** Book your flights by this date! (Even better if by Wednesday, 6/11!)
- Monday, June 16: Travel Plans for the Forum (fax: 301.634.7098 or email: bbruthers@the-aps.org)
- Monday, June 30: Assignment #3, Research Abstract 1-pager, Hypothesis Assignment
- Monday, July 21 - Sunday, July 27: Science Teaching Forum!

3. ALUMNI RT CORNER

- **On the starting the fellowship assignments and research experience, from Cory Slifstein (2000 *Frontiers*, 2003 *Mentor/Instructor*):** *"When I applied for the *Frontiers in Physiology* program I had no idea just what to expect. Before I knew it, I was scrambling to complete assignments and do reflections in the middle of doing exams, grades and reports. It was a madhouse and suddenly I was thrown into a research setting. I felt like a fish out of water. To be honest, I really didn't know what I was doing at first. Some of you may be very comfortable in the research setting, but some of you may feel like I did. I felt like one of those students that has to work very hard to 'get it.' Fortunately, everyone was on my side. Once I stepped back to see the big picture, I was able to relax and enjoy it. Have fun with the work, think about ways to apply it to your teaching and enjoy the experience!"*

4. RESOURCES

...On Technology in the Classroom

- **The U.S. Department of Education wants your views on Educational Technology!**

<http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/os/technology/roundtable-form.html>

...On Health and Science for the Public

- **Resources on Science and Health from the National Institutes of Health**

<http://www.nih.gov/icd/od/ocpl/resources/healthandsciencetothepublic.htm>

NIH communicates science and health to patients, families, scientists, industry, teachers and students, health professionals, and the press. As a public agency, NIH is committed to ensuring that accurate information reaches the diverse American public.

5. OPPORTUNITIES

...For Teachers

- **Toshiba America Foundation**, Deadline: August 1

<http://www.toshiba.com/tafpub/jsp/home/default.jsp>

The mission of Toshiba America Foundation is to promote quality science and mathematics education in U.S. schools. Grants are made for programs and activities that improve teaching and learning in science and mathematics, grades K-12. **The Foundation focuses its grant making on inquiry-based projects designed by individual teachers, and small teams of teachers, for use in their own classrooms.**

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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