

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 29 – November 21, 2008
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1. DEADLINES

- **Monday, November 24:** WISE Assignment #4: Field Testing/Peer Review Results
- ~~Monday, December 1:~~ Final version of Lesson/Activity
- **Wednesday, December 31:** WISE Assignment #5: Readings and Reflection; Spend Mini-Grant
- **NEW DATE: Friday, January 2, 2009: Final version of Lesson/Activity!**

2. RT PROGRAM NEWS

a. Lesson/Activity Draft Reviews: A winter holiday present from us! **A NEW DEADLINE DATE: Friday, January 2, 2009.** We apologize for the delay in returning the suggestions on your classroom Lesson/Activity draft version. They should be on their way in early December. Thanks for your patience! In the meantime, we hope your field testing is wrapping up, and that you are completing WISE Assignment #4 and getting ready for Assignment #5.

b. EB Hotel Info: Your current task is to talk to other RTs about sharing a room in New Orleans to save some costs. Once you have worked that out with other RTs, you may begin to make your hotel reservations before the hotel rooms run out, but we must include and highlight **a disclaimer now: the APS reimbursement (post-travel) is not authorized until the complete, final version of your Lesson/Activity is approved in January 2009.** Most of our activities will take place at the APS Headquarters Hotel: the Hilton New Orleans Riverside (Two Poydras Street). Visit: <http://www.eb2009.org/HotelInformation.htm>. **You will be required** to participate in the APS Education Programs beginning **Saturday, April 18, mid-afternoon (an Orientation Session) through Tuesday, April 21 at 2:00 pm**, the conclusion of the Awards Luncheon with your Research Host. More details will come in due time. Keep in mind that you may come earlier or stay later, but whatever the costs you incur, the maximum reimbursement for travel and lodging remains at \$1000. **IMPORTANT: Please DO NOT register for the meeting!** That's one thing that our office takes care of for our teacher fellows.

IMPORTANT: Please DO NOT make airline reservations yet...just WAIT. Thanks!

c. Applications are now available for the 2009 Frontiers in Physiology Fellowship Program! **Hurry. Spread the word.** Download and share the one-page recruitment flier (pdf), "Brief 2009 Fellowship Overview." Visit the "News and Events" box on the Frontiers homepage: <http://www.frontiersinphys.org/>

d. Mini-Grant Awards: Please spend your award on the items you had requested by December 31st and submit the receipts no later than January 26th.

e. Quick links to the 2008 RT Webpages:

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

Assignments: <http://www.the-aps.org/education/2008rts/assignment.shtml>

3. RESOURCES

...On Research from the APS

- **Exercise increases brain growth factor and receptors, prevents stem cell drop in middle age mice:** <http://www.the-aps.org/press/journal/08/40.htm> - APS is releasing a new study that confirms that exercise can reverse the age-related decline in the production of neural stem cells in the hippocampus of the mouse brain, and suggests that this happens because exercise restores a brain chemical which promotes the production and maturation of new stem cells.

...On Technology

- **Report: Virtual Learning Expands Educational Opportunities**

<http://www.setda.org/web/guest/2020/online-courseware>

Virtual learning is not for all students. But for many, according to a new report from the State Educational Technology Directors Association (SETDA), it can provide opportunities and access that might otherwise be unavailable, and it's therefore a critical component in the educational mix.

- **Report: Measuring Skills for the 21st Century**

http://www.educationsector.org/research/research_show.htm?doc_id=716323

(From ASCD Smart Brief) Last week, Education Sector released the report "Measuring Skills for the 21st Century" and hosted an online discussion about 21st century learning. An ASCD blog highlights that discussion and response from a panel expert. The post also seeks questions about teaching and assessing for 21st century skills for an upcoming January 2009 issue of Education Update, in which ASCD will sit down with the executive director of West Virginia's Teach 21 project, a statewide initiative to align teaching, standards, and assessments with 21st century skills and learning, and examine how one state is "turning the tide on a practical level."

4. OPPORTUNITIES

- **NEW! NASA Offers New Science Teaching Certificate Project, Deadline: Dec. 5, 2008**

http://www.nasa.gov/home/hqnews/2008/nov/HQ_08292_Teaching_Certificate.html

<https://www.us-satellite.net/endeavor/index.cfm>

NASA has announced a new science teacher certificate program that aims to award more than 200 fellowships to teacher in the next five years. Dubbed the Endeavor Science Teaching Certificate Project, the program will expose teachers to NASA science and engineering and help guide them in applying that experience in K-12 classroom instruction.

- **The Albert Einstein Distinguished Educator Fellowship, Deadline: Jan. 13, 2009**

<http://www.trianglecoalition.org/ein.htm>

The Albert Einstein Distinguished Educator Fellowship is a paid fellowship for K-12 math, science, and technology teachers. Einstein Fellows spend a school year in Washington, DC serving in a federal agency or on Capitol Hill. To be considered for an Einstein Fellowship for the 2009-2010 school year, apply and submit three letters of recommendation online by January 13, 2009.

- **Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching**

<http://www.paemst.org/controllers/home.cfc?method=view>

The Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST) is the highest recognition that a kindergarten through 12th-grade mathematics or science teacher may receive for outstanding teaching in the United States. This program authorizes the President to bestow up to 108 awards each year. The National Science Foundation administers PAEMST on behalf of The White House Office of Science and Technology Policy. The online application system will open for 2009 applications, for secondary teachers (grades 7-12), on or around Nov. 1, 2008.

5. 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.