

\*\*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 30 – December 5, 2008**  
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### 1. DEADLINES

- **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: DEADLINE DATE: Friday, January 2, 2009.** Most of you have received our feedback (by pdf/email) on your Lesson/Activity with requirements and suggestions. You'll be receiving the hardcopy originals via postal mail in the next few days. 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! A few of you are wrapping up your field tests in your classroom (or peer reviews) this week, so get going and post up your results in WISE.

**b. Mini-Grant Awards:** Please spend your award on the items you had requested by December 31st and submit the receipts no later than January 26<sup>th</sup>. Forms are available at:  
[http://www.the-aps.org/education/2008rts/mini\\_grants.shtml](http://www.the-aps.org/education/2008rts/mini_grants.shtml)

**c. EB Hotel Info (repeated):** 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!

### d. 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 Broadcast TV this Sunday, 12/7, CBS 9/8c**

- **Hallmark Hall of Fame: Front of the Class.** Inspired by a true story about a teacher with Tourette's syndrome. (*Stars our very own Mentor/Instructor Robert Manriquez...as an extra when they filmed in*

Shreveport this fall! He's in the sports bar scene wearing an Atlanta Braves tee shirt and a fake beer in his hand). [A long URL, so click HERE to view the promo webpage.](#)

### **...On Hands-On Experiences**

- **Importance of Hands-On Lab Work and High School Students** (from the HHMI News Bulletin)  
<http://www.hhmi.org/bulletin/nov2008/features/lessons.html>

### **...On Technology**

- **Speak Up 2008 Survey Open Through Dec. 19:** <http://www.netdayspeakup.org/Speakup2008/>  
Over 60,000 students, parents and educators have shared their views through Speak Up 2008 since the survey opened in October. Find out how you can help Speak Up! achieve 1% response from total student enrollment from all 50 states at their web site.

### **...On Resources for the Classroom**

- **The 2008 Holiday Lectures on Science:** [www.holidaylectures.org](http://www.holidaylectures.org)

#### **From the Howard Hughes Medical Institute**

Live Webcast: Dec. 4th/5th, On-Demand Webcast: Available Dec. 9th

#### **What is mind? Can molecular biology help us understand mental function?**

Eric R. Kandel, M.D. and Thomas M. Jessell, Ph.D. of Columbia University will help us understand how the nervous system turns an idea into action—from the complex processing that takes place in the brain to the direct marching orders the spinal cord gives to the muscles. Modern neuroscience equates mind with the organ we call the brain, an astounding network more than 100 billion neurons connected in a vast complicated web. The presenters will help us puzzle out how the brain is organized and identify the seat of human memory. The question of understanding how the brain functions is rivaled by the question of how such a complex network of cells develops in the first place.

- **The Neuroscience for Kids "Site of the Month" for December is "It's a Noisy Planet" at:**

<http://www.noisyplanet.nidcd.nih.gov/>

The National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders (NIDCD) recently launched the "It's a Noisy Planet" program to help protect the hearing of children between the ages of 8 and 12 years old. The program is designed for parents to teach their kids how to avoid hearing loss from overexposure to loud noise. The "It's a Noisy Planet" Web site offers information about the causes and prevention of noise-induced hearing loss, how to recognize when a child's hearing is at risk, and ways to reduce noise exposure. For kids, the site has games, free posters and pens, and interactive information about noise and hearing loss.

- **What's your Climate Story?**

<http://lab.wgbh.org/open-call/frontline-heat-and-youth-voices>

The WGBH Lab, FRONTLINE and WGBH Teachers' Domain will be kicking off an Open Call for Youth Media Creators! The theme is inspired by the the FRONTLINE documentary "Heat"! "Heat" will take a close look at the critical role of business in global warming: how it has reacted to the science of climate change, how it has influenced government action, and how it is now responding to public pressure to reduce carbon emissions. Watch "Heat" online in its entirety. For this OPEN CALL, WGBH challenges you to create a short that explores the world around you and tell us a story of how climate change is affecting your community via VIDEO. WGBH challenges you to be creative, innovative and fresh with your short-- don't be afraid to think out of the box! TO INSPIRE YOU, THE WGBH LAB and WGBH TEACHERS' DOMAIN are now sharing with you a collection of OPEN CONTENT VIDEO CLIPS that you can download for FREE. USE WGBH content to help you come up with a concept for your short, then come back in January to PITCH your idea! They will also be hosting free online webinars in January to help you!

## **4. OPPORTUNITIES**

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

<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, Deadline: May 1**

<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 is now open for 2009 applications, for secondary teachers (grades 7-12).

**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](mailto:mlimson@the-aps.org)) in the APS Education Office with questions, suggestions or concerns.**