

Austin Peay State University

2005-06 Events for Middle and High School Science

From the MTSEF Director...

It was a great MTSEF last spring! One of our grand prize winners received a second place category award at the ISEF, the highest award by any student from Tennessee. One of our 6th grade student winners placed in the semi-finalist group in the Discovery Channel Young Scientist Challenge program (open to grades 6-8). Only three students from TN placed in this group. More importantly, I feel the overall level of projects exhibited at the MTSEF was better than the previous year. Many thanks to all the teachers who supervised student work!

My goal for this year is to see more involvement by area high schools. As a former high school chemistry and physics teacher of 14 years, I know it is difficult to find time to work with students on research projects, but the rewards are awesome for you and the students. Start small with a few select students and work your way up in the years ahead.

Even though my teaching schedule is heavy this semester, I do want to try to visit some of you. I am reducing my regular "Labman" shows to elementary and middle schools to allow for some additional high school visits, especially for those who have not participated before in the MTSEF. Please contact me if you are interested in a demo/talk presentation about science and science research from "Labman".

We will continue to have the science fair training session here at APSU if there is enough interest. See the back of this letter for additional information. Details of other events at APSU, coordinated by Dr. Carrie Brennan, are also provided. We hope to see you on campus before, during, and after the MTSEF!

Ron Robertson
Department of Chemistry, APSU

Pre-Professional, Allied Health, and Graduate School "Career Fair and Open House"

Austin Peay State University is pleased to host the Pre-Professional, Allied Health and Graduate School Career Fair and Open House on Thursday, **November 3, 2005 from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM**. The fair will be held in the Sundquist Science Center, and is a cooperative effort by the Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Allied Health departments to provide your students maximum exposure to career information.

We would like to invite you and your students to attend the event and learn more about exciting and rewarding careers in science, technology and health-related professions. Students who attend the break-out sessions offered at 5:00, 5:30 and 6:00 PM will have the opportunity to speak with working professionals in the fields of interest, college advisors, and undergraduate college students to obtain information about high school preparation and college coursework in a variety of fields, including pharmacy, dentistry, medical technology and several others. In addition, booths from regional healthcare facilities and specialized APSU programs will provide continuous information to students about academic preparation and employment opportunities.

Refreshments will be provided. While no registration is necessary, we would appreciate it if you or your students would contact either Dr. Robison or Dr. Brennan (see contact information below) *by October 27* with an estimate of how many people are planning to attend. Current information about the Fair (including a tentative schedule) will be available at the following website: <http://www.apsu.edu/brennanc/preprof.htm>.

You may also contact the individuals below.

We hope to see you November 3rd!

ExpOlympics

The ExpOlympics will be held on **April 13, 2006** in the Sundquist Science Building on the campus of APSU. Please join us for this exciting day!

This year we have plans for several new events and plenty of old favorites, including the infamous **egg drop** from the fourth floor, the **titration race**, and, as always, the **Sites' Jewelers Science Quiz Bowl!** Demonstration shows and workshops will also be available for teachers, parents, and students. These are just a sampling of the activities that will be offered, and we hope that you will consider bringing your students to this one-of-a-kind experience.

If you are not familiar with the ExpOlympics, please check the official page of the competition, <http://www.apsu.edu/brennanc/ExpOlympics/index.htm>, and click on the "Overview and History" link. As the date for ExpOlympics approaches, other pertinent information will become available on this site.

Science Fair

Resources, Helps, and the 54th Middle Tennessee Science & Engineering Fair

Are you clueless for a good project idea? Do SRC and IRB sound like government agencies? Is experimental design more mysterious than the Big Bang theory? Don't know how to present your cure for cancer?

Then come to the. . . .

MTSEF Training and Information Workshop

Time: Saturday, Nov. 12th from 9 am to 1 pm

Place: Sundquist Science Building on the Austin Peay State University campus

Events:

- 9:00 Group meeting in E106B
- Tentative sessions on project design, project presentation, rule changes, SRC and IRB paperwork, statistics in science, and projects by scientific discipline.
- "Hands-on" activities and more.
- Lunch at 11:30 am.

Each session is 30 minutes, with 15 minutes for individual questions and movement to the next session. The sessions offered and the overall format will be very similar to last year. More information about individual sessions will be posted soon on our website:

www.apsu.edu/mtsef.

Due to small attendance last year, each school must email mtsef@apsu.edu and specify how many students from your school are expected to attend by **Friday, Oct. 14**. If we do not receive enough interest, the training day will be canceled and those that have e-mailed their interest will be notified.

This is a great opportunity for you and your students – please take advantage of it!

54th Middle Tennessee Science and Engineering Fair

Austin Peay State University

March 23-25, 2006

For ALL projects:

Required Forms:

Entry Form (front & back), Forms 1, 1A, 1B

Notes: Several signatures on these forms must be signed before experimentation begins. Please note this and plan accordingly.

Due Date: *March 1, 2006 (FINAL DEADLINE)*

For projects requiring special documentation:

Required Forms:

See entry form for specific forms and procedures

Notes: Several of these additional forms must be completed before the project begins AND sent to the MTSEF IRB/SRC for prior approval. Please plan accordingly.

Due Dates: Sept. 16, Oct. 7, Nov. 4, Dec. 9,
January 7 (FINAL DEADLINE)

General information:

*The schedule for this year's fair and award ceremony can be found on the enclosed entry form.

*Please note that by signing the entry form, the student is committed to attending the award ceremony if he/she receives an award.

*Middle schools are limited to sending 3 projects per grade unless awards were won in previous years. Go to www.apsu.edu/mtsef for information regarding your school. Also, please remember to complete the middle school project certification form found at the website.

SEE YOU THERE!

Communication

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Discussion Board: MTSEF Board at pauling.apsu.edu