

February 17, 2010

RE: 2010 Alabama Chemistry Olympiad Competition
Deadline for Requests for Local Exams – March 3, 2010

Dear Colleague,

The UAB Center for Community OutReach Development (CORD) and the Alabama Chapter of the American Chemical Society (ACS) will host the regional competition for the 2010 U.S. National Chemistry Olympiad (USNCO). This program stimulates interest and achievement in chemistry among high school students throughout the United States and provides recognition of outstanding young chemistry students, teachers and schools.

The Alabama Section of ACS will nominate 10 students from Alabama to take the USNCO national examination on Saturday, April 24, 2010 at UAB. To identify the Alabama students who will take the National Examination, we ask each high school or their Chemistry Departments to administer the **preliminary examination on Thursday March 25, 2010**. There is no cost for the examinations, and the exams will be mailed to you by March 13th. Please see the attached Application for Participation form to order your exams. Deadline to request exams is March 3, 2010. For security reasons, the exam should be administered on the same day throughout the state; however, if March 25, 2010 is not a suitable date for your students, you may request to administer the exam on another day during that week. The exam answer sheets must be returned to CORD by U.S. mail and postmarked no later than March 31st. Exam answer sheets postmarked after March 31, 2010 will not be considered. You may keep the examination questions and return them to your students **AFTER April 2, 2010**.

The top 20 U.S. students on the National Examination will attend a two-week Study Camp at the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado, June 9-24, 2010. Four of these students will represent the U.S. at the 42nd International Chemistry Olympiad (IChO) in Tokyo, Japan, July 19-28, 2010. The students participate in both theoretical and laboratory examinations. Gold, silver, and bronze medals will be awarded to the best performers, and the IChO provides students the opportunity to interact with their peers from other countries.

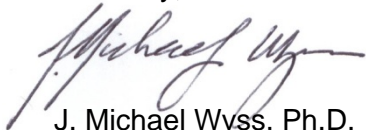
I encourage you to identify competitive chemistry students who would profit from this competition. All students who participate in the local examination will be recognized with a certificate, and top students will receive recognition for outstanding performance in specific categories. Following the Alabama National Chemistry Olympiad testing on April 24th at UAB, we will give out certificates and prizes for the exam performance. For further details, see link below which will direct you to the ACS new web site and provide information on the spring 2010 National Meeting and Exposition.

http://portal.acs.org/portal/acs/corg/content?nfpb=true&_pageLabel=PP_TRANSITIONMAIN&node_id=528&use_sec=false&sec_url_var=region1&uuid=7506caec-25a8-4bc4-9d9b-5a639d638fba

Please make this tremendous opportunity available to Alabama's outstanding high school chemistry students. Send us the request form attached by March 3, 2010, and we will send you the requested local exams.

Thank you for helping to promote chemistry education in Alabama.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "J. Michael Wyss".

J. Michael Wyss, Ph.D.
Professor of Cell Biology and Medicine
Director, Center for Community OutReach Development

Enclosures: Application for Participation in the Alabama Local Competition
 Rules for Participation in the 2010 U.S. National Chemistry Olympiad
 Alabama Chemistry Olympiad Program Schedule

Application for Participation in the Alabama Local Competition of the 2010 National Chemistry Olympiad

1. Information on the teacher who will administer the Local Examination:

Name _____

Title _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone Number (home) _____ (cell) _____

Email _____

School at which you teach: _____ Grade Level _____

School District: _____

2. Number of Local Exams requested _____

(Please order the number of exams based on students who indicate they wish to participate (the cost of the exams and their mailing to you will be paid by UAB).

3. Please indicate if you require an alternate date on which to administer the exams:

We will be unable to administer the local exam on March 25, 2010. Therefore I wish to administer the exam on _____ (must be during the week of March 25th).

I cannot administer the exam during the week of March 25, 2010. Please call or e-mail CORD (see address below) to set up an alternate date. I can be reached at _____ (phone) or by e-mail at:

I hereby certify that I will administer the Local (Preliminary) Chemistry Olympiad Exam according to the rules of the Exam, and I will insure the examinations security until April 2, 2010, after which time I may release the exam questions to the students.

(Applicant Signature)

(Date)

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM by March 3, 2010:

Mail to:

2010 Alabama Chemistry Olympiad Competition
UAB Center for **C**ommunity **O**ut**R**each **D**evelopment
933 19th Street South, Room 503
Birmingham, Alabama 35294-2041

by Fax: 205-934-5158 or **by E-Mail:** ccord@uab.edu

Rules for Participation in the 2010 U.S. National Chemistry Olympiad

NOTE:

- To be eligible to take the National Exam a student must be a U.S. citizen.
- No more than two students per teacher or per high school may be nominated to take the National Exam; however, any high school student and any number of students from a school may take the Local (Preliminary) Exam.
- All students taking the Preliminary Exam will be recognized for their participation, and the top prize may go to a student who is not eligible to take the National Exam.

1. All students who take the USNCO national examination MUST BE U.S. CITIZENS on the day it is taken (They MUST BE eligible for a U.S. passport.) Green card holders are not eligible for the National Exam.

NOTE: Any student may take the Local (Preliminary Exam) and is eligible for awards for their performance on it. Only the National Examination is restricted to US citizens.

2. ONLY regularly enrolled high school students who will graduate no earlier than the spring of 2010 are eligible.

3. A student's date of birth must be after July 31, 1989.

4. No more than **two students per teacher or per high school may be nominated** to take the national exam. In the case of magnet programs or split enrollment, students' school is defined as the high school where students take science class.

NOTE: There is no limit for the number of students from a school who may take the Local (Preliminary) Exam.

5. Eligible students who have previously attended the study camp automatically qualify for the national exam and do not count against the limit on number of eligible students from their local section or school.

6. Winners of silver or gold medal at the International Chemistry Olympiad are not eligible to compete in subsequent USNCO study camps.

7. Students who have taken advanced placement courses in chemistry are eligible. Likewise, students who have received credit for college level courses (limited to no more than two semesters or three quarters beyond general chemistry) are eligible.

8. A student may participate only in the competition of the section in which the student's high school is located. If the section is not participating, the USNCO national office will assign the student to a section.

9. A student who participates in the Physics Olympiad study camp, the Mathematics Olympiad study camp, or the Biology Olympiad study camp is not eligible to participate in the Chemistry Olympiad study camp during the same summer.

**Alabama National Chemistry Olympiad
2010 Program Schedule**

March 3, 2010	Deadline for requests for local examinations Application for Participation Form.
March 12-16, 2010	Requested Examinations mailed to schools.
March 25, 2010	Preliminary Exam given at school(s).
March 31, 2010	Deadline for Answer Sheets to be returned to CORD.
April 2, 2010	Schools may distribute exam questions after this date to students.
April 24, 2010	Alabama National Exam administered at UAB.
June 9 – 24, 2010	Top 20 U.S. students from the National Exam attend the two-week study camp at the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado.
July 19 – 28, 2010	The 42 nd International Chemistry Olympiad competition in Cambridge, England.

