CENTER FOR COMMUNITY OUTREACH DEVELOPMENT Office of the Provost J. Michael Wyss, Director

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March 21, 2014

Dear Science Educator:

We invite you to participate in **BioTeach**, an exciting summer program designed to train teachers in current biochemistry and molecular biology techniques held at the McWane Science Center in downtown Birmingham. BioTeach is a three-week graduate-level course offered to middle and high school biology teachers throughout Alabama by the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) and is designed to provide teachers with a background in cellular and molecular biology techniques, as well as their applications in medicine, industry and forensic science. BioTeach emphasizes inquiry-based learning and provides training in experiences and lab activities for you and your classroom.

Each morning, BioTeach participants attend lectures presented by federally funded, UAB researchers. The afternoon session in the GENEius Lab is dedicated to learning laboratory experiences designed to broaden your skills in molecular biology techniques and facilitate your ability to design and carry out hands-on experiments in your classroom. In addition, participants will receive training for several ASIM Biology labs along with common core application. Each Friday, participants explore various methods of classroom implementation of the skills learned during the week. On the final day of the course, each working group presents a classroom application based on techniques learned in the course. BioTeach graduates are encouraged to bring their classes twice during the school year to the GENEius Lab for additional hands-on laboratory experiences focused on the molecular biology and genetics of Sickle Cell Anemia, DNA Fingerprinting, Huntington's Disease, and Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV). The enclosed GENEius brochure provides more information on these labs. Graduates are also encouraged to request ASIM lab modules for use throughout the academic period.

The three week course will be held Monday through Friday, **June 9 to June 27.** BioTeach graduates are also required to attend three professional development workshops during the school year. Applications for the 16 positions in the course must be received by **May 16, 2014**. To apply for the course, simply return the attached application form. You will be notified of acceptance into the program. At your expense, you may register for three or six graduate-level credit hours, which may be applied towards certification or an advanced degree. There is no cost to you for the course and each participant will be paid \$100 per complete day of summer participation and \$100 for each professional development workshop attended during the academic year. Each teacher will also receive a graduation certificate and AMSTI/ASIM Biology certification.

We hope you will decide to join us this summer in BioTeach. Over 300 Alabama teachers have already graduated, and all regard BioTeach as an essential component to their professional development as teachers. Please feel free to contact us at (205) 934-5171 or email sginwrig@uab.edu if you have questions about the 2014 edition of **BioTeach for Teachers**.

Sincerely,

J. Michael Wyss, Ph.D. Director, CORD