October 19, 2007

Dear CANCAS Members:

Hello from the Executive Committee of the Collegiate Academy of the North Carolina Academy of Science (CANCAS). I hope that this new academic year has been filled with new adventures and educational endeavors. On behalf of the Executive Committee, I would like to cordially invite and encourage all current and prospective members to this year’s Fall Research Workshop. We are excited to announce that this year’s Fall Undergraduate Research Workshop will be held at North Carolina Central University on **Saturday, November 10, 2007**.

The workshop will include 2 sessions on a variety of topics relevant to undergraduate research including (1) how to plan projects and collect the data and (2) how to analyze data and communicate your results and conclusions. In addition to this ‘how to conceive and carry out a research project’, there will be an understanding diversity workshop, a keynote presentation entitled ‘From undergraduate to faculty member: how to develop yourself as a researcher’, a graduate and undergraduate panel of students speaking about their research experiences, as well as, a social lunch followed by the CANCAS business meeting. For more information about the workshop and related events see the links below. In addition a pre-registration form and an advertisement flyer are attached.

As a community, the CANCAS Executive Committee is continually working on ways to enrich and improve itself to better serve the interests and needs of the members. We strive to better communicate with our members, provide opportunities and resources for undergraduates, and to increase the network of our scientific community across the state. This network will increase communication of scientists throughout North Carolina so that we may work together and aid one another in the scientific process. In an effort to work towards these goals, the Executive Committee in conjunction with the senior and student academies, has implemented a new website with a more user friendly format to better communicate with our members (link below). These pages provide information such as upcoming events, membership, archives, the handbook, and contact information. In addition, the Executive Committee is continuing to work on increasing participation in CANCAS; by updating and expanding our contact information list at the Fall Workshop and Annual North Carolina Academy of Science (NCAS) Meeting, and by inviting other academic institutions to become new members.

Last year, the Executive Committee invited the High School State Science Fair winners to present their work at the annual NCAS meeting. This was such a great success and a great way to inspire our youth towards research. It provided a great opportunity for them and we wish to do that again this year. We hope this will encourage them to pursue science as a career and to become CANCAS members during their collegiate careers. By participating both in the workshop and the NCAS meeting in the spring, students are able to see the research process as a whole—from conceiving a project idea to presenting their data and results. In doing so, a student is able to not only learn about science but to experience it through hands on experience. Edwin Powell Hubble in
the *Nature of Science* said, “Equipped with his five senses, man explores the universe around him and calls the adventure Science.” With this in mind, I encourage everyone to please share this information with your students and to encourage them to participate in this year’s Fall Undergraduate Research Workshop and the spring NCAS meeting.

Sincerely,

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CANCAS website:  
[http://www.cancas.org](http://www.cancas.org)

Directions to North Carolina Central University:  
[http://www.nccu.edu/About%20NCCU/Driving%20Directions.html](http://www.nccu.edu/About%20NCCU/Driving%20Directions.html)