29 September 2011

Dear CANCAS Members:

Greetings and salutations, I hope all has been well thus far. It is my pleasure to announce that the Executive Committee of the Collegiate Academy of the North Carolina Academy of Science has been working diligently to plan all of the upcoming events and activities. It is now that we are starting to see things manifest. The Fall Research Workshop will be held at Lenoir-Rhyne University, located in Hickory NC, on Saturday October 22, 2011. On behalf of the Executive Committee, I would like to extend an invitation to everyone who belongs to CANCAS, or is interested in the sciences in any fashion, to attend.

We expect that this year’s events and activities will prove to be both beneficial and fun. This year both CANCAS and NCSAS students are invited to attend with their faculty mentors and there will be an opportunity for the collegiate students to mentor the high school students during the workshop. We plan to pair the CANCAS and NCSAS Students according to their career interests. The workshop will focus on both research skills such as selecting a research project and scientific presentation skills, and career preparation. CANCAS students will have the opportunity to participate in mock interviews and a career panel. There will be lots of networking opportunities with peers and faculty during the Luncheon, Ice-Cream Social, and CANCAS Business Meeting.

The CANCAS Executive Committee is always working on projects that we hope will benefit our members, and the scientific community as a whole. Each year CANCAS tries to raise awareness of the organization so that we may better provide opportunities for undergraduate research and camaraderie within the sciences.

Department chairs and faculty, I have a special request. CANCAS is in need of Campus Liaisons. These liaisons serve as ambassadors for each of their respective schools and help CANCAS connect to students participating in student organizations at home institutions. CANCAS asks that you nominate one or two students at your institution that you feel would be best in performing this duty. Active student organization officers make ideal Campus Liaisons. Please contact CANCAS Co-Executive Director, Erin Lindquist (erinlind@meredith.edu), with your nominations and please encourage your nominees to attend the CANCAS Research Workshop on October 22 so they can be elected CANCAS Campus Liaisons.

I encourage you all to use the CANCAS website: www.cancas.org. The website contains useful information on past and future events, as well as current officers and committees. Information on our membership, and grants are available for students doing research or attending graduate school. CANCAS also maintains a Facebook page to keep our members in contact with each other. I urge anyone who is interested to make the most of both of these resources.

CANCAS has consistently done a wonderful job with all of its projects. It brings CANCAS great joy to fortify and enrich the scientific community in any way we can.
I am excited to see all of you at both the Fall Workshop, and this year’s annual NCAS meeting, which will be held at my own Campbell University. I look forward to displaying Campbell hospitality. I wish you all a wonderful year and we look forward to seeing you!

Sincerely,

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