CANCAS Strategic Plan
2004-2005

Note: Blue lettering indicates goals that have already been accomplished. Details are located at the end of the document. Accomplishments will be updated at the end of the year.

Mission Statement: The purpose of this organization shall be to promote interest in scientific research among undergraduate students, provide opportunity for students and faculty members of science to share and interact in scientific endeavors, and disseminate information of such scientific endeavors to all students of science.

Goals:
• Continue to provide and improve the opportunities available through CANCAS membership
  • Look into adjusting deadline of Yarbrough Research Grant Deadline
  • Expanding the Graduate School Fair and continuing to offer the Graduate School Workshop
  • Focusing on multi-disciplinary speakers and workshops at CANCAS events
• Up-dating the reliance on technology
  • Increasing use of technology to disseminate information to all members
  • Encouraging use of technology for research and presentations
• Improving communication among individuals, institutions, and CANCAS
  • Activating and using a mailing list
  • Designing and opening an official CANCAS web-site
  • Sending monthly News Notes to all CANCAS members and advisor
• Ensuring the sustainability of CANCAS
  • Inviting High School State Science Fair winners to present at the annual NCAS meeting
  • Encouraging institutional members to interact with local schools to increase interest in the sciences
• Modify the CANCAS Handbook and constitution
  • Make appropriate changes so the handbook is relevant to today’s technological abilities
  • Improve readability and understanding of the handbooks intention
  • Ensure that some of the mentioned goals are enacted and persist
  • Reduce overlap and streamline processes in the handbook
• Gain public recognition as reputable scientific community
  • Improve resources available to members
  • Encourage students to publish their work
  • Seek outside assistance from the research sector to grow our resources
  • Provide an arena for employers and graduate students to meet and find work
Completed tasks:

- Look into adjusting deadline of Yarbrough Research Grant Deadline

  Several options were considered:
  1. Have 2 deadlines and award periods per year
  2. Push the deadline until fall when the details of many projects are formalized
  3. Keep the same deadline dates but make other modifications:
     - allow awarding of funds earlier for summer research
     - more heavily advertise so that projects can be chosen early enough to meet the grant deadline

  The first option would require more administration than was available. The second option would not meet the needs of individuals doing summer research. The third option was the one chosen. The call for Yarbrough grants reflects the change in when funds can be distributed and the grant will be more actively advertised during the fall workshop.