CANCAS STRATEGIC PLAN
2006-2007

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.

Short-Term Goals:

- Improve the information available to the membership related to graduate school
  - Identify a method of conveying graduate school information at the fall workshop. This may involve graduate student speakers, a round table or other appropriate format.

- Improve communication among individuals, institutions, and CANCAS
  - Continue to expand the mailing list by gathering students emails at the workshop and annual meeting registration.
  - Continue the process of improving the CANCAS website
  - Create an entry in Facebook
  - Make photos available through Webshots

- Increase the diversity of CANCAS
  - Increase the representation of different fields of biology
  - Increase the representation of different fields of science
  - Increase the involvement of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU). Although there are faculty involved from HBCUs, few students from these institutions are attending and presenting at the annual meeting.

- Membership Recruitment
  - Develop a poster and a brochure. Distribute these to clubs and to programs that are involved with undergraduate research (e.g. SURF)

- Ensure the sustainability of CANCAS
  - Inviting High School State Science Fair winners to present at the annual CANCAS meeting
  - Encouraging institutional members to interact with local schools to increase interest in the sciences
Long Term Goals:

- Focus on multi-disciplinary speaker and workshops at CANCAS events

- 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. This may be an aspect of the Graduate Student Fair or other means could be identified

- Ensure the sustainability of CANCAS
  - Continue to find ways to increase involvement of membership and future members (e.g. high school students and members of the Student Academy)

- Lecture Program
  - Increase the awareness of this opportunity and rebuild the program

- Improve the information available to the membership related to graduate school
  - Continue to encourage the NCAS board of directors to identify an individual to coordinate a Graduate School Fair each year at the Annual Meeting. If a coordinator is identified, work with this individual to make the fair a success