CANCAS Strategic Plan
2008-2009

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:

- Increase publicity and awareness & membership of CANCAS.
  - In addition to the fall mailing of the Fall Workshop to CANCAS members, send email advertising/brochure to biology department/organizations of all local schools.

- Improve the interaction of CANCAS members with each other.
  - Plan activities during the Fall Workshop and/or Annual Meeting for students to network and interact.
  - Use the field trip time after the workshop or plan an outing to a nearby restaurant to allow for more interactions between CANCAS members from different schools.

- Improve the information available to the membership related to careers and graduate school at the Fall Workshop.
  - Identify a method of conveying career and graduate school information at the fall workshop or annual meeting. This may involve graduate student speakers, admissions representative, a round table or other appropriate format.
  - Invite companies to speak about career opportunities and to form networks with representatives.

- Improve communication among individuals, institutions, and CANCAS.
  - Manage the already created Facebook page by creating invitations and event blogs, making photos and information available.
  - Continue the process of improving the CANCAS website.
Long Term Goals:

- 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 careers and 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