

Part II

Selected Presentation Slides, Given at the 59th Annual Center
Directors Meeting, Austin, Texas, October 30, 2001

II.10 Vanderbilt University, Center in Molecular Toxicology

Presenter: Brad Hawkins

**Vanderbilt University
Center in Molecular Toxicology
The Center Associates Program**

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The Center Associates Program

- A curriculum and professional development program designed for a wide array of individuals in science or a science-related profession
- Persons eligible include from Vanderbilt and other area colleges and universities, community health professionals, high school teachers, and professionals from governmental and private organizations

The Center Associates Program

- Designed to provide educational and facility support for the program participants from Center Investigators
- Program will increase the awareness of the Center's research within the State of Tennessee
- Participants will receive support from the Center to perform projects in the area of toxicology, environmental health, or general and specialized science

The Center Associates Program

Year One Outcomes

Dr. Glenn Marsch, Macon Elementary and Sweetwater High School participated as initial members in the first year Associates Program.

- “Characterization of Nucleoside and DNA Adducts Formed by S-(1-Acetoxyethyl) Glutathione and Implications for Dihalomethane-Glutathione Conjugates” in *Chemical Research in Toxicology* **2001**, 14, 600-608



Macon School students doing water quality testing at Fletcher Creek (5 June 2001).

The Center Associates Program

Year Two Outcomes

- 11 new groups/individuals to participate in 2001-2002
Community and school educators were primarily recruited
- Cumberland Science Museum
Assistance in helping educate the community on environmental health hazards such as tobacco smoke
- General support in school science activities such as needs for laboratory equipment for chemistry, toxicology and biology experiments
- Projects range from assistance in performing classroom/school health research focusing on Sick Building Syndrome to examinations of pGLO bacterial transformations by 8th grade students
- Results, pictures and reports will be published on the Center's website and in subsequent publications such as the Center's *Toxikon*

The Center Associates Program

Benefit to Outreach Program

Directly attributed to Associates Program and a host of additional outreach and education activities, the Center's Outreach Program is well on its way to becoming the environmental health and research contact for schools and educators in Middle Tennessee.

The Associates Program has helped in solidifying and gaining new education contacts in Tennessee and has provided leadership in environmental health issues.

The Center Associates Program

Future Directions

The Associates Program has opened doors within the community and will continue to do so.

- Tennessee Arts and Science Consortium
New opportunities are developing with partners in TASC to recruit new associates.
- Increase members in the program
(target number 15 groups or individuals) through the year 200-2003
- Focus on community groups and K-12 educators
- Associates to present and highlight their work at a Center community function (Center Open House)