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PRESS RELEASE - September 2009
Mrs. Melissa Randall, Science Teacher

Science Teachers get Hands on Experience in Pharmaceutical Lab

Schering-Plough Research Institute Hosts Teachers in 15th Year of Summer Program.

Seven New Jersey middle and high school teachers have worked alongside professional scientists this summer in a four-week program giving them an opportunity for first-hand experience with the latest technologies in pharmaceutical and basic science. This is the 15th year for the program run by scientists from Schering-Plough Research Institute (SPRI), the research and development arm of Schering-Plough Corporation.

Teachers heard about new pharmaceutical developments in allergy and inflammatory diseases, oncology, genetics, microbiology, DNA sequencing and more. They received instruction about topics including general toxicology, pathology, drug metabolism and others. Since 1995, nearly 100 teachers have participated in the program.

"This program provides teachers with a realistic perspective and better understanding of how science is applied in the real world," said Richard Bond, senior principal scientist, SPRI. "By working with professional scientists as part of a research team, the teachers learned about the drug discovery process and the role pharmaceutical companies have in finding and developing new medicines to meet health needs."

Feedback from this year's participants was enthusiastic as it has been consistently throughout the history of the program. "This has been an enriching experience," said Melissa Randall, a teacher at Byram Intermediate School, "I look forward to returning to my classroom this fall with fresh ideas to help science come alive for students."

The Summer Institute for Teachers, which ran from July 6 - 30, was conducted at SPRI facilities in Kenilworth, Summit and Lafayette. The seven teachers who participated were:

Kraig Burropughs, Aquinas Academy, Livingston
Bernadette DeLaurie, Roselle Catholic High School, Roselle
Debbie Lee, Hillside High School, Hillside
James Marion, Wallkill Valley Regional high School, Hamburg
Melissa Randall, Byram Intermediate School, Byram Township
Dale Sona, David Brearley High School, Kenilworth
Teresa Tenreiro, Hillside High School, Hillside

"Bringing middle and high school teachers into our research facilities gave them an understanding of the many different types of scientists required to bring a drug to market," said Joseph Starkey, executive director, State and Community Affairs. "This experience allows them to relate to their students how science can positively affect people's lives and the many different opportunities available in the scientific field."

The Schering-Plough Summer Research Institute is for high school and middle school teachers. The program is designed to offer opportunities for teachers to meet local scientists that would explain some of the latest technology used in pharmaceutical science. Participants can earn Professional Development Hours that will count toward the New Jersey state mandate for continuing education. In addition, participants were granted a stipend and a \$1,000 donation of science equipment and supplies from Fisher to their schools.

Schering-Plough is an innovation-driven, science-centered global health care company. Through its own biopharmaceutical research and collaborations with partners, Schering-Plough creates therapies that help save and improve lives around the world. The company applies its research-and-development platform to human prescription, animal health and consumer health care products. Schering-Plough's vision is to "Earn Trust, Every Day" with the doctors, patients, customers and other stakeholders served by its colleagues around the world. The company is based in Kenilworth and its Web site is www.schering-plough.com