



## New Seminar Series Highlights Strategies to Support K-12 Science Education

Bethesda, MD - The American Physiological Society (APS) launched a new brown bag seminar series on *Sharing Strategies in K-12 Science Education* on January 22, 2009 on the campus of the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB). Martin Frank, APS Executive Director, opened the series by encouraging professional scientific societies to collaborate together in sharing resources, strategies, and expertise, rather than functioning as "silos" of educational programs.

The APS hosted Jaclyn Reeves-Pepin, Director of Development for the National Association of Biology Teachers (NABT, [www.nabt.org](http://www.nabt.org)). Reeves-Pepin convincingly provided the context for how scientific research societies can partner with NABT to support K-12 education by:

- offering opportunities to collaborate between scientists and teachers;
- providing content expertise, workshops, and journal articles that enrich and empower teachers; and
- developing accurate and credible instructional materials in specialized areas of science.

Teaching associations such as NABT can offer the expertise of navigating the landscape of K-12 education, opportunities for collaboration, and marketing outreach programs across the nation. NABT values its motivated member base of educators who want to stay informed on what is happening in both education and biology research. Reeves-Pepin's presentation is available on the APS Frontiers in Physiology website (see below). Following the NABT presentation, Dr. Tony Beck of the National Center for Research Resources (NCRR) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) described K-12 science education and public health awareness efforts across the nation in the Science Education Partnership Award (SEPA) program ([www.ncrrsepa.org](http://www.ncrrsepa.org)).

In attendance were education program directors and/or executive directors from the American Society for Human Genetics, American Society for Cell Biology, American Society for Microbiology, American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Society for Developmental Biology, the Carnegie Institution of Washington, the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, and the American Physiological Society. Also represented were AAAS Science and Technology Policy Fellows in the Office of Science Education and the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, and representatives from the NIH.

The seminar series is supported by an NIH NCRR SEPA grant as part of the APS' Six Star Science Frontiers in Physiology program ([www.frontiersinphys.org](http://www.frontiersinphys.org)). Programmatic information for the seminar series and presentations are available at: [www.frontiersinphys.org/pages/page04g.shtml](http://www.frontiersinphys.org/pages/page04g.shtml).

**Save the date:** March 26 (speaker to be announced): *Implementing Effective Teacher Professional Development Programs*. For further inquiries, email Mel Limson, APS K-12 Education Programs Coordinator: [mlimson@the-aps.org](mailto:mlimson@the-aps.org).