



KANSASBIO
KANSAS BIOSCIENCE ORGANIZATION™

Educate.

KansasBio develops programs to “Tell the Kansas Bioscience Story,” as was outlined as a top priority in the 2005 *Bioscience Roadmap*. KansasBio presents information about relevant bioscience research and commercialization information to thousands of people each year at various community outreach meetings, such as symposiums, legislative briefings, Chambers of Commerce gatherings, Rotary Clubs and other civic meetings. By sharing exciting news and information in these face-to-face meetings, KansasBio members are introduced to their communities so all can better understand the important scientific advancement taking place locally and throughout the state. KansasBio also distributes a periodic electronic newsletter, *BioBuzz*, and a weekly policy update during the legislative session. Annually, KansasBio publishes a magazine, *Kansas Bioscience*, to highlight annual achievements of industry companies and research initiatives. The publication is mailed to a diverse audience of more than 3,000 subscribers and is used as a collateral material at job fairs and annual conventions, such as the Biotechnology Industry Organization (BIO) annual conference, DIA, and AAPS, among others.

KansasBio supports a **scholarship fund through member contributions** and distributes awards to **undergraduate and graduate students** in concert with the State’s research universities through two programs: K-INBRE and the Capitol Graduate Research Summit. KansasBio has awarded more than \$25,000 in scholarships to undergraduate and graduate students through these programs. In addition to receiving a financial award, each student is invited to participate in an annual presentation of their research to the KansasBio Board of Directors. Some of these students go on to work for or have formed collaborative research partnerships with member companies as a result of making connections at KansasBio events.

KansasBio assists school districts in Kansas with **bioscience exposure** opportunities for K-12 students:

- 1. Simply Science** – (grades 5-8) Built upon the nationally award-winning Bayer “Making Science Make Sense” model, Simply Science is now operating in 19 Kansas counties and impacting 2,000 children each year through a partnership with K-State Extension Services.
- 2. CAPS and 21st Century Schools** (grades 9-12) -- KansasBio members work directly with school teachers and administrators to develop bioscience strands for use in high school curricula and to conduct informational sessions at their schools.
- 3. Summer Bioscience Academies** (grades 7-12) – Through partnerships with area community colleges and universities and the Southeast Kansas Education Service District at Greenbush, KansasBio members host tours for at-risk and high-achieving students who are involved with bioscience research camps in Kansas.
- 4. Kansas BioGENEius Challenge** (grades 9-12) – In 2011, KansasBio was one of ten organizations nationally who won a competitive grant to start a local science fair competition in conjunction with their state and regional ISEF fairs. Through this program, KansasBio will competitively select and send three students to Washington DC in June to compete in the US National BioGENEius Challenge and the International BioGENEius Challenge.
- 5. Lunch @ the Lab and Meet the Mentor** (grades 5-12) – In support of the Kansas BioGENEius Challenge, KansasBio created two new programs to help reach the long-term goals of the BioGENEius Challenge.

Lunch@the Lab with KansasBio provides in person and video-conference sessions at no cost to school districts and other educational forums, so that students are able to learn about careers in bioscience and see first-hand what types of bioscience research are being conducted within bioscience research labs locally.

BioGENEius Meet the Mentor is a program designed to connect students conducting bioscience research with professional researchers to help the students with their own lab projects and science fair research projects.

Each of these programs is managed by KansasBio, the Board of Directors, and the Talent Development and Education Committee under the leadership of Greg Unruh, Chair. To become involved with one of these science programs or to contribute financial support, please contact Angela Kreps at KansasBio.