

BASE PAIR/SOAR
Telemachian Brevis

September 15-19, 2008

Volume 2, Issue 3



**Upcoming
Group of 5 Meeting**

**10/13/08
Room UI74**

The Group of Five is a euphemism for those involved in the daily management of the Base Pair/SOAR program. It includes UMC faculty and staff, as well as Base Pair/SOAR lead teachers. Other interested parties are always welcome.

About The Brevis

The *Telemachian Brevis* provides a means of communicating items of administrative concern to the Base Pair/SOAR Program. It is updated weekly for Base Pair/SOAR personnel, key JPSD and UMC administrators and others with a need to be aware of program activities.

To unsubscribe, please e-mail
Chameka Simmons at:

CCSimmons@rowland.umsmc.edu

Place "unsubscribe *Brevis*" in
the subject line.

Submissions for the *Brevis* may also
be submitted to Chameka Simmons
via the e-mail above.

SPOTLIGHT

Jim Hill SOAR Teacher Wins Award



Susan Bender, sixth from the left, was presented with a 2008 Outstanding Educator Award by Parents for Public Schools and the Outstanding Educator Awards Fund of the Community Foundation of Greater Jackson. Congratulations Susan!

WELCOME

Mary Washington-Branson
Callaway

Karen Evans
Madison High School

Kathy McKone
Bogue Chitto

Linda Nobles
Forest Hill

Charles Rosser
Bailey Magnet

Cassandra Vanderford
Brandon High School

Correction from our Last Issue

HHMI Visit-September 23-24, 2008. Please see details inside.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

Equipment Inventory Verification Forms must be mailed to:

UMMC Pharmacology Dept.

Stella Smith

2500 North State St.

Jackson, MS 39216

Deadline Friday, September 19, 2008

2008 Metro Jackson Heart Walk

Mississippi State Capitol
Sunday, October 26, 2008
1:00 p.m.



We're on the Web!

<http://basepairlibrary.umc.edu>

Community of Science Forum Set for November 10th

The fall Community of Science Forum, "Putting the Fire into Science Education," is set for November 10th, 2008, in the Norman Nelson Student Union on the UMMC campus. The topics have been assigned to the various Base Pair/SOAR classes as follows:

Callaway High School SOAR

Introduction and Welcome

History and Geography of Fire Ants in the United States

Murrah High School Base Pair

Health and Human Impact

Jim Hill High School SOAR

Agricultural and Economic Impact

Murrah High School SOAR

Intervention and Control of Fire Ant Infestations

Forest Hill High School SOAR

Ecology of Fire Ants: Where, When and Why

Provine High School SOAR

Conclusions and Thank You

Callaway High School SOAR/Bailey SOAR (Tentatively one student participant)

Brochures have been written by the Rural Biomedical Initiative Program at Puckett High School and will be distributed by those students. A program, listing the participants, schools, and topics will be prepared by the RBI Program at Madison Central High School and will be distributed by those students at the event.

We would like to have all preliminary slides and scripts for each group by our next scheduled Group of Five meeting on Monday, October 13, 2008. Please send all slides and scripts to Drs. Rockhold (rrockhold@pharmacology.umsmed.edu) and Sullivan (dsullivan@medicine.umsmed.edu) prior to the meeting so that we may put them all in a file for review during the October 13th meeting. At that time, a final decision concerning order (not the assignment) of presentation of topics will be made should the above outline need revision. A slide background for the preparation of all Power Points is available and will be sent to each participating school as a single blank slide.

Practice sessions with students for the Community of Science Forum will begin on October 27th, two weeks prior to the actual event. Tentatively, we will have practice as a group, involving all schools and students, Monday through Thursday the weeks of October 27-30 and November 3-6, with Fridays free for other school activities. All teachers and students must attend the practice session in order to be included in the program in order to ensure continuity of the forum.

Visit by Howard Hughes Medical Institute Representative

We are very excited to have Ms. Andrea Widener from Howard Hughes Medical Institute visiting us to observe our Base Pair/SOAR Program. This joint program by the Jackson Public Schools and the University of Mississippi Medical Center has been funded by HHMI for many years based on our successful work with your students and teachers. We are very pleased to have Ms. Widener from the HHMI Public Relations department join us to spread the word of our remarkable program, the wonderful students who participate, and the teachers who make it happen. She will be observing teachers and students in their class rooms and at the JPS Environmental Learning Center, taking photographs, and interviewing both teacher and student participants about a new grant awarded and initiated this past summer.

This summer, several of the JPS teachers and Ms. Kathy McKone from Bogue Chitto High School participated in our second HHMI sponsored program to develop five new teaching modules based on locally important issues. The idea was to explore important curriculum objectives using the red imported fire ant as a starting point. The grant, entitled "Muse of Fire", combined the efforts of high school teachers, Millsaps College students and faculty, as well as UMMC faculty to construct teaching modules on human health issues, ecology and taxonomy, toxicology, microbiology, and cellular biology.

Ms. Widener and a photographer plan to be here September 23 and 24 to observe students and teachers in their classrooms as well as on field trips using these teaching modules. We plan to have some time Tuesday, September 23, with Mr. Jeff Stokes, the Base Pair students and their mentors here at UMMC. This would not require any major disruption of student classes since these students will already be on campus. After school, we have invited several Base Pair and SOAR teachers who participated in our summer Muse of Fire activities to meet with Ms. Widener here at UMMC for more one-on-one discussions of the program.

I have set up a schedule for Ms. Widener's visit that includes observation of Ms. Susan Bender and her SOAR class (8:30 block) at Jim Hill High School on Wednesday, Sept. 24th. Ms. Bender plans to employ a lesson plan and lab for microarray DNA analysis she and I developed at UMMC this summer. Fortunately, this is scheduled for her regular SOAR class time and should not require any changes in student schedules.

Following that, we have planned a field trip to the Environmental Learning Center with Ms. Tammy Cox and her SOAR class at 10:00 for a demonstration of a field work module developed by Ms. Cox and Dr. Jim McKeown from Millsaps.

From that point, we will proceed to one of our Rural Biomedical Initiative sites at Bogue Chitto High School to visit Ms. Kathy McKone and her first year Biomedical Research class. Ms. McKone and Dr. Sarah Lea McGuire, Chair of the Department of Biology at Millsaps College, will conduct a laboratory experiment that will allow our students to network with Dr. Seth Bordenstein at the Marine Biological Laboratory at Woods Hole. Dr. Bordenstein has been instrumental in a world wide effort to map the prevalence of the bacteria *Wolbachia* in insects. We look forward to adding the red imported fire ant and Mississippi to the map of this important insect pathogen.

Ms. Andrea Widener will be joining us September 23-24th to observe our Base Pair, SOAR, and RBI students as they implement various aspects of the Muse of Fire teaching modules. The following detailed schedule has been prepared and approved by the high schools, teachers, and classes involved.

(OVER)

HHMI Visit Detailed Schedule

DATE, TIME	LOCATION, ACTIVITY
Tuesday, Sept. 23	
1:30-3:30	UMMC Laboratory Murrah High School Base Pair Students Toxicology Module
4:00-5:30	Meeting with Muse of Fire Team leaders: Dr. Ann Yates/Ms. Jammie Hemphill Dr. Jim McKeown/Ms. Tammy Cox Dr. Donna Sullivan/Ms. Susan Bender Dr. Rob Rockhold/Mr. Jeff Stokes Dr. Sarah Lea McGuire/Millsaps students
Wednesday, Sept. 24	
8:30-9:45	Jim Hill High School SOAR Classroom Activity Microarray Module
9:45-10:00	Transport to JPS Environmental Learning Center
10:00-11:00	JPS Environmental Learning Center Provine High School SOAR Class Ecology Module
1:30-3:30	Bogue Chitto High School RBI Class Wolbachia PCR Module

CONTACT US

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