

Telemachian Brevis

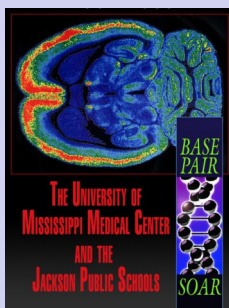
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BASE
PAIR

HHMI Program Director's Meeting



Moving Forward
Together for Science Education

Dr. Sullivan, Dr. Bonita Potter (JPS Deputy Superintendent for Instruction) and I attended the 2007 Precollege Program Director's meeting in D.C. Oct. 22-24. Dr. Potter's presence was very helpful and I believe she found the meeting to be productive and exciting. Much of the program centered on identifying science education challenges and solutions. New quantitative data were presented concerning effective learning activities for K-12 science. Of particular interest in that arena was a presentation by Philip M. Sadler, Ph.D., Chair, Science Education Department at the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics. In addition to intriguing data looking at the relative lack of a "value-added" effect of AP courses on college science progression, Dr. Sadler presented lists of learning activities in the classroom that either help or hinder academic performance. Backed by large-scale, published quantitative analysis, these provide valuable insights into teaching methods that promote learning in the most effective manner. An abstract of an earlier work by Dr. Sadler can be accessed at the site below. His more recent work is published in the International Journal of Science Education 29(8): 987-1017, 2007. I will be able to download his Powerpoint presentation from the HHMI web site and will provide that to all at our next meeting. Other HHMI presentations will also be provided.

<http://www3.interscience.wiley.com/cgi-bin/abstract/77002349/ABSTRACT?CRETRY=1&SRETRY=0>

Please bring to the next meeting—or forward to Gail before 10/31/07— a wish list of items that you need for your classroom. Books, supplies, reagents, kits, poster supplies, flash drives, etc. are examples of items that would be allowed. The list should not exceed ~\$1,000.00.

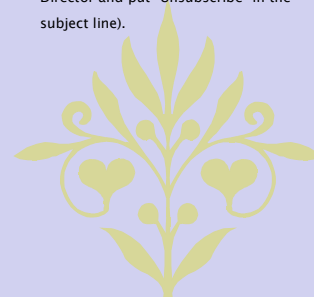
Other tid-bits of interest from the meeting

- Our generation will be the first in which children are less literate than their parents (Sally Shuler, Executive Director, National Science Resources Center).
- The number of jobs requiring science degrees is growing at 3 times the rate of other jobs (U.S. Dept. of Labor).
- The U.S. is second only to Turkey in a 2006 poll of 35 countries asking the question "Do you accept the theory of evolution?". Only 40% of U.S. adults asked the question responded "Yes" (Science 313:765, 2006).
- In the U.S. in 2007 only 5-7% of middle school and high school students had access to quality science instruction; 30% of elementary students currently have access to such (Sally Shuler, Executive Director, National Science Resources Center).

For Immediate Action:

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

- To contact us, e-mail the Program Director (Rob Rockhold, Ph.D., assistant vice chancellor for academic affairs, UMC) at: rockhold@pharmacology.umsmed.edu or telephone 601-984-2810.
- To unsubscribe, e-mail the Program Director and put "Unsubscribe" in the subject line.



Group of 5 Weekly Meeting:

- **Unless Halloween preparations interfere, the next scheduled meeting will be Wednesday, October 31 at 4:00 p.m. in room U174 on the UMMC Campus. Please confirm your plans to attend or send regrets to Gail Howell ASAP.**