Science Notes - Summer Workshop for High School Biology Teachers

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Summer Workshop for High School Biology Teachers

The biological sciences faculty at Iowa State University will sponsor its first annual summer workshop for Iowa high school biology teachers. The workshop, funded by a grant from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, will provide opportunities for high school biology teachers and university faculty to work together to develop and exchange new technical and educational tools for use in high school laboratories and research projects.

Projects and activities for participants include:
(1) Developing portable laboratory exercise/project kits for short-term loan to Iowa high school biology teachers;
(2) Collecting, handling and culturing local fauna, especially invertebrates, for laboratory use;
(3) Producing instructional/demonstration videotapes of microscopic and macroscopic biological phenomena, animal behavior, etc;
(4) Building and using low-budget gadgets and devices for student laboratories;
(5) Exchanging ideas, strategies and instructional tools useful in teaching crucial and difficult concepts in biology; and
(6) Developing and/or exchanging computer software for biology.

University faculty specializing in developmental biology, neurobiology and behavior, toxicology, quantitative biology and cell and molecular biology will be represented.

The workshop will be held at Iowa Lakeside Laboratory, West Lake Okoboji, and will last three weeks during June, 1993. Funding is available from the Hughes Foundation to cover participants' stipends and room and board.

For more information, contact Dr. Charlie Drewes, Zoology and Genetics Department, 339 Sci II, Iowa State University, Ames, IA 50011, ph. (515) 294-8061.

--A.L.W.