



The Governor's School of New Jersey at Drew University

The School in the Sciences
Madison, New Jersey 07940-4037

(973) 408-3605

November 17, 2011

Dear NJGSS Alumni and Supporters,

It is November and since the 2011 New Jersey Governor's School in the Science (NJGSS) ended in August, we have had an earthquake, hurricane, snow/tree storm and the announcement of the first NJGSS alumni to receive a Nobel Prize. The really good news is that we have just posted the application and the announcement for the 2012 NJGSS. That means we are now planning for our 29th program. That in turn means that I again have to ask you all for money! The summer of 2012 will be the seventh program for which we have to raise most of the money necessary to host an eager and enthusiastic group of young scientists and mathematicians for three weeks of intense course work, laboratories, and team projects. Last year we were able to raise \$106,000 from corporations and foundations. The State of New Jersey has promised another \$50,000, but the balance of our \$255,000 budget came from you, the alumni and parents of alumni. With that funding we were able to have another highly successful three week program with 85 scholars.

What did that funding accomplish? We were able to offer a new physics laboratory course, and new team projects in biochemical modeling, googling (recognition) of 3-dimensional shapes, and computational modeling of neural systems. These new offerings joined the other courses, laboratories, and projects to provide a challenging and exciting curriculum. The 2011 scholars were able to glimpse into the future at our traditional career day and college nights, and shared their amazing abilities, spirit, and diversity at our annual talent show. Weekend dances, movie nights, pick-up games, and barbecues, rounded out the three packed weeks that culminated with outstanding presentations of their team project results at our final science conference.

Thanks to all of you who gave last year and made our 2011 program possible. I hope that you will again be generous and make it possible for us to host another group of enthusiastic and creative students. For those of you who were unable to help us last year, I hope you will be able to help us for this coming summer. While we hope to repeat, and in fact increase our success in raising gifts and grants from foundations and corporations, there is no guarantee that they will continue to be so generous. In addition the State of New Jersey remains in serious financial difficulty and the amount that we still do get from them is not guaranteed. There are now over 2500 alumni of NJGSS. If every one of the 2500 gave \$100, we would have what we need to run the program in 2012 without having to raise any additional funds. Needless to say I would be amazed (and overjoyed) if that happened. My point is that the small gifts of \$50 and \$100 do add up and are appreciated. Of course I also appreciate the much larger donations that some of you have been able to give and I hope they will continue.

The award of a Nobel Prize to Adam Riess, NJGSS 1987, was a very exciting moment for the program. But that announcement is only another indication of how important this program is to encouraging young people to discover themselves as scientists and mathematicians. Adam has stated that participating in NJGSS was the reason he went into physics. Many of you have made similar claims. Our goal is to keep the program going and with your moral and financial support I know we will have another successful New Jersey Governor's School in the Sciences this coming summer.

For your information, Drew is a 501(c)(3) organization, and all of your contributions are tax deductible. We are able to take checks as well as online donations, and don't forget to find out if your employer has a matching gift policy.

If you chose to send a check, make it out to 'Drew University' and in the memo field put 'NJ Governor's School in the Sciences.' Our mailing address is:

NJ Governor's School in the Sciences
Drew University
36 Madison Ave
Madison NJ 07940

If you would like to make an online donation, you can use Drew's online form:
https://www.alumniconnections.com/olc/pub/DRE/onlinegiving/showGivingForm.jsp?form_id=2211

In the Gift Designation area, in the pull down list, select 'Named Fund' and in the comments box put 'Governor's School in the Sciences'.

You can also find this information on our web site, www.drew.edu/govschool, along with photos and projects from the 2011 program. Additionally, you can update your contact information, view photos of all the NJGSS classes, and find our Facebook page.

Again, we thank you for your generosity and support.

Sincerely,

David M. Miyamoto
Director, NJ Governor's School in the Sciences