

INBRe-Communication *Outreach Edition*

Although some faces are changing, Idaho's INBRE Outreach Core keeps moving forward, creating opportunities for students and faculty. With the departure of Margaret Ricci to Indiana at the end of December, Rhena Cooper from NIC will take over as Director of the Outreach Core. Rhena has been instrumental in starting an innovative internship program in northern Idaho, and her work is coming to the attention of her institution's board of trustees as well as the State Board of Education. She has unflinching enthusiasm and a great dedication to students as well as a little political savvy. The Outreach Core is in good hands. At BYU-I Dwight Wray has stepped down as the INBRE coordinator after several years of service. Steve Christenson and Todd Kelson (interesting how it will take two people to replace Dwight) are excited to pick up where he left off. Steve is new to INBRE, but he is asking all the right questions, and Todd has been involved with INBRE for the last few years, attending the INBRE Summer research conference regularly.

Speaking of faces, we can all see each others' faces now. INBRE recently purchased a year's subscription to Breeze, a video conferencing package that allows participants to not only see each other, but to share data and files, chat, show PowerPoint presentations and generally interact in cyberspace. *This technology is available to all INBRE participants.* Use Breeze for data-rich meetings when a phone conference isn't good enough. Use Breeze to broadcast seminars to other campuses. To attend a Breeze presentation all you need is a computer with speakers. If you want to interact, you will need a webcam and a microphone. Breeze runs right out of a web browser, so there are no installation or firewall issues. We have purchased ten concurrent "seats" for the year, and our capacity is very underused at the moment. If you are interested in trying it out, contact Ken Blair (kblair@uidaho.edu) or Margaret Ricci (mricci@uidaho.edu).

The Outreach Core is particularly focused on creating research opportunities for undergraduate students and collaboration opportunities for faculty. The Scholars, Fellows, and Interns programs are picking up momentum as the word gets out among students that these are interesting and rewarding opportunities. Many of these fellowships and internships are leading directly to jobs and to research positions in labs, and we are beginning to see the "pipeline" fill up with students who have come through the Scholars, Interns, and Fellows programs on their way to graduate school. Faculty members at the Outreach institutions are forging partnerships with faculty at research institutions to fulfill educational and research-oriented goals, and some of the Outreach institutions are beginning their own in-house research programs to enhance their teaching missions.

Last August's INBRE Research Conference provided a great opportunity for exchanging ideas for outreach. Three sessions devoted to teaching, including new technologies for teaching, incorporating research into teaching, building bioinformatics into courses, and incorporating internships into education, were on the docket, allowing the Outreach institutions a chance to showcase their accomplishments. The Outreach institutions have come a long way in the last several years and have done an amazing job of finding a way to mesh INBRE's goals with their own identities and missions. The people at the Outreach institutions (because it's really all about the people) have proved to be innovative, adventurous, collaborative, and enthusiastic, and greater things are on tap for the future.

If you have a topic or idea for a future INBRe-Communication, please contact Kjelda Berg by calling 208-885-5373, or e-mail kjeldab@uidaho.edu

Don't forget the deadline for the Fellows pre-application is Friday, December 1st. Please go to our website at www.sci.uidaho.edu/inbre for more information and to fill out the Pre-Application.



The Idaho INBRE (IDeA Network for Biomedical Research Excellence) Program is sponsored by NIH-NCRR (National Institutes of Health and the National Center for Research Resources) P20 RR016454

