



19th Annual
Missouri Southern Regional Science Fair
(Affiliated with Science Service)

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Dear Science Instructor:

It is time to start thinking about the **19th Annual Missouri Southern Regional Science Fair (MSRSF)**! We hope you are planning to enter student projects in the 2008 Fair. The fair will be held Tuesday through Thursday, **April 1-3, 2008**.

First place winners in each Senior Division category will receive **scholarships to MSSU** for one semester of tuition (renewable for a second semester with a minimum grade point average). Two grand prizewinners will receive **paid trips to enter the 59th Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF)** in Atlanta, Georgia, May 11–17, 2008. Junior category winners receive \$25, and the two junior grand prizewinners receive \$100. Approximately **30% of the entries will receive placement awards!**

The MSRSF is open to middle school and high school students in these counties: Dade, Cedar, Vernon, Barton, Jasper, Newton, McDonald, Barry and Lawrence in Missouri; and the counties of Neosho, Crawford, Montgomery, Labette, Cherokee and Bourbon in Kansas. (Bourbon county was added to our territory this year, giving more students the opportunity to enter an ISEF fair!)

The website for the MSRSF has teacher and student information, rules, dates, and entry and protocol forms to view, print or download. The site is available at www.msrsf.org. If you have colleagues who did not receive a mailing from us, they can obtain all the entry information on the website. All forms can be edited online and printed out. No more typewriters or illegible student handwriting are necessary!

The **2008 Science Fair Schedule** is enclosed. **All forms and rules are available (or will be soon) on the MSRSF web pages.** Please return the enclosed **INFORMATION FORM** to let us know if you plan to attend, and if you wish to receive the ISEF Rules Book and MSRSF entry forms in the mail. Questions regarding the Science Fair may be sent to me at: garoutte-m@mssu.edu or to Dr. Crystal Lemmons (Chair of SRC) at: lemmons-c@mssu.edu.

An excellent web site to help your students in every step of the science fair process is www.sciencebuddies.org. Though not affiliated with MSRSF or the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair, we highly recommend this site. For students having trouble choosing a topic, the site contains an interactive project finder, which helps students match their interests with types of questions to start asking. Science Buddies does not give the student a project idea, but rather guides them to an original idea that would uniquely interest that student. Once a topic has been chosen, this site has a detailed "how-to" section that offers guidance and examples. Science Buddies also offers an "Ask an Expert" on-line bulletin board where students can post questions that expert scientists and engineers answer. Students can also view all questions on this bulletin board to see if their question has already been answered. This is an excellent site for any student who is seeking help and guidance with their science fair project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael Garoutte".

Dr. Michael P. Garoutte
Director, MSRSF