



## Lowcountry Regional Science and Engineering Fair

### 2007 Annual Report

#### General Information

The 27<sup>th</sup> annual Lowcountry Regional Science and Engineering Fair was held March 21 at the Omar Shrine Center, Mt. Pleasant, SC. The Lowcountry Science Fair is open to students in grades 5-12 in Berkeley, Charleston, Colleton, Dorchester, and Georgetown counties. There were 154 students presenting 141 projects, representing three high schools and twelve elementary/middle schools. The student demographics are shown in Tables 1 and 2. At the 2006 Lowcountry Science Fair, 147 students presented 119 projects and represented five high schools and seven elementary/middle schools.

|                       |            |
|-----------------------|------------|
| Caucasian             | 124        |
| African-American      | 17         |
| Asian                 | 6          |
| Hispanic              | 3          |
| Other                 | 3          |
| Not Provided          | 1          |
| <b>TOTAL STUDENTS</b> | <b>154</b> |

*Table 1 - Ethnicity of Students*

|                       |            |
|-----------------------|------------|
| Female                | 75         |
| Male                  | 79         |
| <b>TOTAL STUDENTS</b> | <b>154</b> |

*Table 2 - Gender of Students*

The Lowcountry Science Fair is an affiliate of the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF) and abides by their rules and regulations. This year, the projects were divided into three divisions: Junior 1 for fifth and sixth grades, Junior 2 for seventh and eighth graders, and Senior for high school students. Each project was then placed into one of the following categories, Behavioral and Social Sciences, Biological Sciences (includes botany, microbiology, and zoology), Chemistry and Biochemistry, Engineering, Geology and Environmental Science (includes earth and environmental science), Mathematics and Computer Science, Medicine and Health, Physics and Astronomy (includes physics and space science), and Team Projects. All categories were represented with projects. First, second and third place awards were given in each category for Senior and Junior Divisions (if applicable) as well as numerous special awards. There were approximately 70 judges from various organizations, College of Charleston, MUSC, The Citadel, and local businesses.

#### Awards Ceremony and Overall Winners

The Awards Ceremony was held Friday, April 6<sup>th</sup> at the College of Charleston's Physicians Auditorium. Approximately 84 students received awards.

Overall first, second and third place winners in each division were awarded trophies and \$50, \$35 and \$25 cash respectively. The teachers of the first place overall winners in each division were awarded a \$50 BarnesandNoble.com gift card. The first and second

place overall winners in the senior division, as well as the teacher of the first place winner, were provided an all-expenses paid trip to the ISEF in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

The Junior 1 Division first place winner was Keenen Friend, a sixth grade student from First Baptist Church School. His project in the Engineering category was titled "Beyond Splashdown: Landing Systems for Spacecraft Missions." His teacher is Ms. Alicia Donohue.

The Junior 2 Division first place winner was Shea Socha, a eighth grade student from Pinewood Preparatory School. His project in the Geology and Environmental Science category was titled "Is the Ground You Stand on Slipping Away." His teacher is Ms. Karen Hames.

The Senior Division first place winner was Alexander Romanczuk with his project in the Chemistry and Biochemistry category, "A Computational Examination of Sparteine." The Senior Division second place winner was Yupeng Lui with her project in the Geology and Environmental Science category, entitled "Algicide Resistance in the Growth Rate and Toxin Production of a Coastal Harmful Algal Isolate." Alexander and Yupeng are seniors at Academic Magnet High School and students of Mr. Bruce Newton and Mr. Murray Eicher, respectively.

### Sponsors

Corporate sponsors of the LSF include the College of Charleston School of Sciences and Mathematics and Lowcountry Hall of Science and Math, Patriots Point Foundation Cold War Submarine Memorial Fund, Omar Shrine Center, American Society for Quality, Image Network of Charleston, and SC SeaGrant.

Parent sponsors of the LSF include Jan & Barry Coulter, Dr. & Mrs. Milton J. Foust, Jr., Ferris Scott & Carleen Grant, Diane McCanick, Nadine N. Oelsner, The Shepard Family, Dr. & Mrs. Mark Greenslit, and the parents of Guilherme Porto.