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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Congratulations to Molecular Biology Initiative Partner Teacher Mrs. Hanson

Technology Association of Georgia Recognizes Award Finalists focused on Science, Technology, Engineering and Math Education

ATLANTA (August 30, 2013) – The Technology Association of Georgia (TAG), the state’s leading association dedicated to the promotion and economic advancement of Georgia’s technology industry, today announced that the **Molecular Biology Initiative (MBI) Program** at Georgia Southern University has been named as a Finalist in the **Post Secondary Outreach** category for the **2013 Georgia STEM Education Awards**. “As a partner teacher, **Mrs. Hanson** has been instrumental in the success of the MBI Program, along with her supporting school and school district administrators,” said Dr. Laura Regassa, Director of the MBI Program.

The Georgia STEM Education Awards recognize schools, programs, and companies for outstanding efforts and achievements in supporting and promoting STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) Education in Georgia. Winners in each category will be officially honored at **The 2nd Annual Georgia STEM Education Awards event** held on **September 27th**.

“Recent studies show that Georgia will need to fill approximately **211,000** STEM-related jobs by 2018,” said Tino Mantella, president & CEO of TAG. “The 2013 **Georgia STEM Education Awards** finalists are helping to prepare the tech-ready workforce to fill these jobs and we applaud them for standing out as leaders in Georgia’s educational community.”

About MBI

The MBI Program targets STEM education and workforce needs at multiple levels in Southeast Georgia to ensure a real and lasting impact. Participants include in-service teachers, K-12 students, and students pursuing advanced STEM degrees. Each semester, the program partners graduate student fellows with in-service high school teachers, and together, they bring technologically relevant, hands-on instruction to over 900 students on a weekly basis. For more information, visit the MBI Program website at www.georgiasouthern.edu/mbi or contact Janee Cardell at (912) 478-1923.



About TAG Education Collaborative

TAG Education Collaborative is dedicated to developing science, technology, engineering and math initiatives in Georgia. Through partnerships with statewide STEM programs, TAG-Ed fosters student interest in STEM in order to increase appreciation for the opportunities available through technology careers. TAG-Ed hosts an internship program for high school students, two web-based team challenges for students interested in Health IT and web design, and the Vine Event, an annual fundraiser benefiting STEM education. For additional information, visit [TAG Education Collaborative](#) or contact Michael Robertson at (404) 920 – 2038 or [mrobertson@tagonline.org](mailto:mrobertson>tagonline.org).

About The Technology Association of Georgia (TAG)

The Technology Association of Georgia (TAG) is the leading technology industry association in the state, serving more than 21,500 members and hosting over 200 events each year via 5 chapters across the state including Metro Atlanta, Athens, Augusta, Columbus, Macon/Middle Georgia and Savannah. TAG serves as an umbrella organization for 33 industry societies, each of which provides rich content for TAG constituents. TAG's mission is to educate, promote, influence and unite Georgia's technology community to foster an innovative and connected marketplace that stimulates and enhances a tech-based economy. The association provides members with access to networking and educational programs; recognizes and promotes Georgia's technology leaders and companies; and advocates for legislative action that enhances the state's economic climate for technology. For more information visit the TAG website at www.tagonline.org or TAG's community website at www.TAGthink.com.

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Bradwell Institute



Molecular Biology Initiative Continues STEM Education at Bradwell

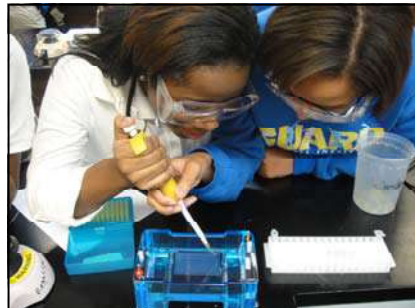
The Georgia Southern University Molecular Biology Initiative (MBI) is kicking off another exciting year of partnership with Bradwell Institute and science teacher Donna Hanson. This year is going to be bigger and better than ever, with over one hundred program activities designed to enhance your student's science education.



Jimmy Merrifield, a Georgia Southern graduate biology fellow will partner with Mrs. Hanson to bring hands-on, high-tech science labs that will increase the relevance and rigor of the current science curriculum and address the Georgia Performance Standards. Students will have the opportunity to participate in activities similar to a crime scene investigation that will engage them in the processes of DNA isolation and analysis. They will also experience the importance of ecological stewardship through sustainability activities such as green building, water conservation and testing, carbon footprint analysis and bioremediation for ecology disasters.

The MBI program strives to engage your students in inquiry-based activities that will not only enhance their current education, but introduce them to potential career options in science, technology, engineering, and manufacturing.

For more information about the program or to learn how you can support our efforts, visit www.georgiasouthern.edu/mbi or contact the MBI Program Coordinator at jcardell@georgiasouthern.edu.



Left: MBI fellow observes students practicing micropipetting techniques. Middle: Students loading DNA onto an agarose gel for analysis. Right: Student examines the effects of water pollution on populations located down river.