



March 2022

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Letter from President Elect



Melissa Bunch
Oakland High School

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Celebrate Black Women Biologists

- In celebration of Black History Month backing up to Women's History Month
- Read up on some inspirational figures

Good day, all!

I would like to start by introducing you to a relatively new not-for-profit in Tennessee, [The Coalition for Health Sciences and BioSTEM Education](#). The Coalition's mission is to support life science education in Tennessee, particularly biotechnology. It is led by President Kurt Riemenschneider and strives to lend support to teachers across Tennessee in the life sciences/biotech arena as well as help grow a workforce for the burgeoning biotech industry in our great state.

Three years ago there was only one publicly traded biopharmaceutical company in Tennessee. Today there are six. That is substantial growth in three years. That does not include the 1200+ privately held biotech/life science companies in the state ([Targeted-for-Growth-Industry-Report.pdf](#) at [lifesciencetn.org](#)).

In addition to helping advance the biotech workforce, the Coalition sponsors biweekly Zoom calls with industry partners, offers professional development opportunities for teachers, and helps teachers make industry connections. There is a professional development event June 1-3, 2022 at Oak Ridge National Laboratory on CRISPR, which I will lead.

The State of Tennessee now has a new CTE program of study under STEM called BioSTEM. The program focuses on DNA, RNA and proteins, and the program teaches lab skills such as pipetting, electrophoresis, PCR, Western blots, and more. If you would like more information on the BioSTEM program, please feel free to email me at missybunch@gmail.com. Kurt and his team would also love to hear from all life science teachers in Tennessee, and you may reach him at kurt@curexcapital.com.

I hope you have a great rest of the year...Spring break is just around the corner!

Melissa M. Bunch

President-elect, TNABT

You're Invited to our 2022 Annual Spring Conference!

When: April 9th from 8:30 AM to 3 PM

Where: Central Magnet School
701 E Main St Murfreesboro, TN 37130

Register: Register online [HERE!](#)

We are excited to say that we have some **FREE** giveaways that we will be awarding to the first several conference registrants!

- BioRad pGlo kit
- BioRad ELISA kit
- Copy of The Serengeti Rules by Sean B. Carroll
- Copy of A Series of Fortunate Events by Sean B. Carroll
- HHMI BioInteractive items

Fee: \$20 through PayPal at <https://paypal.me/tnabt>

PD Credit: Professional Development certificates will be provided for the number of hours you participate!

Agenda:

8:30 AM	Registration, Coffee, Meet and Greet
9:00 AM	Dr. Neil Lamb's Top 10 News in Biotechnology*
10:15 AM	Break
10:30 AM	HudsonAlpha's Sharing Science with Skeptical Students
11:30 AM	TNABT Meeting
12:00 AM	Lunch <ul style="list-style-type: none">• We will do a group order to Panera that you can place when you sign-in or feel free to bring your own!
1:00 PM	Breakout Sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introduction to New MiniONE Labs• Take a new look at Algae beads from Algae Research Supply• Educational Opportunities with HudsonAlpha
2:30	Wrap Up and Feedback

***Keynote Speaker:** **Neil E. Lamb, PhD**



Vice President for Educational Outreach & Faculty Investigator

HudsonAlpha Institute for Biotechnology in Huntsville, Alabama

Dr. Neil Lamb is an award-winning science communicator who has led the educational outreach efforts at the HudsonAlpha Institute for Biotechnology since 2006. He completed his PhD and postgraduate training at Emory University in Atlanta where he was also a faculty member in the School of Medicine. During his tenure at HudsonAlpha, Dr. Lamb has assembled a world-class outreach program that annually reaches more than 1 million global learners of all ages. In February 2022, HudsonAlpha's board of directors appointed Dr. Lamb as the incoming President of the Institute, effective on July 1 of this year.

Join Us in Celebrating the Intersection of Black History Month and Women's History Month



Jewel Plummer Cobb

Biologist, Cancer researcher, Studied melanoma



Ruth Smith Lloyd

Studied sex hormones and female reproductive cycle



Kizzmekia Corbett

Harvard educated researcher, worked on mRNA as a possible vaccine vector for over 10 years, important in the development of the vaccines for COVID-19



Beebe Stephen Lynk

Professor of Medical Latin Botany at the University of West TN in Jackson

Stay in Touch

Visit our website at <https://sites.google.com/view/tnabt> to view our mission statement, learn about membership, read previous newsletters, and explore NABT awards.

Contact us at mailer.tnabt@gmail.com. We'd love to hear from you!

TNABT Leadership:

President: Robert Pruitt, Montgomery Bell Academy

Vice President: Melissa Bunch, Oakland High School

Treasurer: Kevin Watkins, Montgomery Bell Academy

Secretary: Rachel Lytle, Brentwood High School

Long Term Advisory Board:

Kim Sadler, Middle TN State University

Brenda Royal, Central Magnet School

Tom Cox, Brentwood Academy