



ALABAMA ACADEMY OF SCIENCE, INC

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Dr. Mark T. Jones, Auburn, Alabama, named 2010-2011 Gorgas-AJAS Teacher Fellow

The Alabama Academy of Science (AAS) is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Mark T. Jones, Auburn, AL, as the 2010-2011 Gorgas-AJAS Teacher Fellow. This position was created in 2008 by AAS to support and encourage growth of the statewide science competitions. The Alabama Junior Academy of Science and Gorgas Scholarship Competitions are held annually for high school students. As the 2010-2011 Teacher Fellow, Dr. Jones will be actively involved in developing mechanisms to engage teachers and students in entering these competitions. His vision is to develop numerous web-based resources for teachers and students. He will work with AAS officers and the Gorgas Committee to establish a database of interested teachers and make presentations on experimental design, project-based science and research competitions for secondary students. Dr. Jones will coordinate linking students pursuing scientific inquiry with AAS scientists who are willing to volunteer their time and expertise to assist students. While developing student-mentoring programs in conjunction with university-honors-programs outreach, Dr. Jones will be a voice for state science education initiatives.

Dr. Jones, a National Board Certified Teacher, holds the PhD from Auburn University, Department of Curriculum and Teaching, Science Education. His dissertation is titled "Implementing Inquiry-Based Kits within a Professional Development School Model." At Auburn City Schools and for his dissertation, he works with the Alabama Math, Science and Technology Initiative kits to develop inquiry-based experiences for middle-school students. He also served as adjunct faculty, teaching secondary science education at Auburn University. Currently at J. F. Drake Middle School, he is the science chairman and teaches life science and enrichment. He coordinates Science Olympiad teams for Drake Middle, Auburn Junior High and Auburn High Schools where he has helped to lead his student-teams to local and state championships consecutively for over a decade. At Auburn University, Dr. Jones participates in Research Experience for Teachers through Industrial and Systems Engineering and develops multiple Youth Experiences in Science (YES), Science Matters and Teams and Individuals Guided by Engineering Resources (TIGERs) Camps.

With experience in web design, video demonstrations and grant-writing, Dr. Jones will develop virtual resources for teachers and students in Alabama. His numerous presentations and publications on inquiry-based science education will make Dr. Jones a valuable resource for teachers and students in Alabama. Dr. Jones may be reached at mtjones@auburnschool.org. The Gorgas Competition website is www.GorgasScholar.org.

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