

## Annual Meeting & Winchell Undergraduate Symposium

The Annual Meeting & Winchell Undergraduate Symposium provides an opportunity for professional scientists, undergraduates and graduate students to present original research to their colleagues in academia, industry, and government.

Our 2008 event was held at Bethel University. Thank you to the wonderful faculty and staff of Bethel who put together an exceptional event this year. Seventy-four posters and forty-one papers were presented in a wide range of categories. Abstracts of the research presented were published in Volume 71 of the Journal of the MN Academy of Science (available online at [www.mnacadsci.org](http://www.mnacadsci.org)).

Best in Session awards went to oral presentations by:

- Joshua C. Speros (*Synthesis and Characterization of a Novel Polymerizable Chemiluminescent Compound*)
- Udochukwu Obodo (*Semaphorin Protein Expression in Mouse Thymus*)
- Eric R. Smith (*Biomass Production and Soil Nutrient Analysis in Restored Prairies*)
- Mayank Verma (*Partial Amelioration of the Phenotype Associated with DMD through an Increase in Vasculature*)
- Megan Schwitzer (*Comparison of Various Polarimetric Radar Rain Rate Estimators with Surface-Observed Rain Gauge Rain Rates*)
- Cory Lindh (*Demonstration of Remote Temperature Determination with a Novel Dual-Band IR Imaging Spectrometer*)

Special thank you to **Dr. Mark Rise** from Medtronic who gave a fascinating keynote speech on medical device use for neuro-modulation.



The 2009 event will be at St. Catherine's College in St. Paul. Submissions are being accepted until March 2009.

For more information go to [www.mnacadsci.org](http://www.mnacadsci.org).

### Megan Buchanan hired as Program Coordinator

Megan Buchanan has joined the MN Academy of Science as our first program coordinator for the Annual Meeting & Winchell Undergraduate Symposium. Tasked with providing a multi-year focus and resource development, Megan will be working with the dedicated Annual Meeting Steering Committee we have in place.

Megan's background in non-profit administration and event management makes her an



## Research & Engineering Apprenticeship Program

Each year, the Academy supports two high school students in research settings, giving them an opportunity to work with professional scientists on original research. The Research Engineering Apprenticeship

The 2008 REAP awards were given to:

- Nicole Dah On Lee
- Teresa Yang

Program (REAP) provides an opportunity to work in a research environment. These apprenticeships are designed to expand the students' background and understanding of scientific research, while motivating them toward a research career in science, mathematics or technology. The REAP scholars present their research at the Junior Science and Humanities Symposium the following year.