



## UNH Hosts Third Nanotechnology Conference For N.H. K-12 Teachers April 4

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DURHAM, N.H. -- The University of New Hampshire will host its third annual nanotechnology conference for New Hampshire-based K-12 teachers April 4, 2007. The event will feature six workshops plus a keynote address given by Christopher J. Bosso, professor and director of the Nanotechnology and Society Research Group at Northeastern University. The conference attracts more than 50 teachers from all parts of New Hampshire, making this one of the larger nanotechnology conferences for K-12 teachers.

Teachers will be exposed to topics including nanoscience research, the history of nanotechnology and societal impacts of nanotechnology. Bosso's keynote address is entitled "Societal Concerns about Nanotechnology—And Not What You Think."

Glen Miller, UNH professor of chemistry and associate director of the Center for High-rate Nanomanufacturing, which hosts the conference, says, "The nanotechnology revolution has already begun. There are hundreds of commercial products that utilize nanotechnologies of one type or another. There will be thousands of new products in the coming years. These include everything from sporting goods equipment to electronic devices, from cars to cancer therapies. For the consumer, nanotechnologies promise better performing products that are less expensive. The National Science Foundation predicts that new nanotechnologies will add two million jobs and one trillion dollars per year to the world's economy by 2015. It is important to educate the general public about nanotechnology. K-12 teachers in particular need to be engaged in this discussion. Their students will be most affected by nanotechnologies and they represent the future nanotech workforce."

Susan Greenberg, K-12 outreach coordinator for the Center for High-rate Nanomanufacturing, organized the conference and notes that it represents one piece of a vibrant K-12 outreach program at UNH. "Scientists have regularly been visiting New Hampshire classrooms to discuss nanotechnology, as well as giving four separate presentations to First LEGO League teams last fall to help them in their research to fulfill this year's challenge topic, nanotechnology. We had more than 500 middle school students and their coaches attend the presentations," she says. Greenberg will follow up the nanotechnology conference with a K-12 Teacher Institute to be held between July 23 and July 27, 2007 on the UNH campus.

Interested teachers can contact Susan Greenberg at [susan.greenberg@unh.edu](mailto:susan.greenberg@unh.edu) or by visiting the Nano Group website at [www.nano.unh.edu](http://www.nano.unh.edu).