

Funding provided by the National Science Foundation

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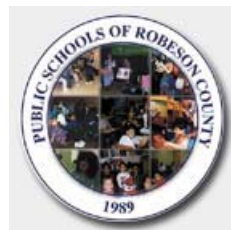
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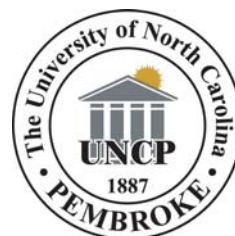
Educational Partners

Public Schools of Robeson
County



NCCCS BioNetwork

University of North
Carolina at Pembroke



Industry Partners



Wyeth



Robeson Regional Biotech Education Consortium



Helping to Bridge the Biotechnology Gap





Robeson Community College is the proud recipient of a three - year federal grant from the National Science Foundation to do the following:

- Increase the number of students in the biotechnology field by providing training and professional development for high school science teachers.
- Improve the biotechnology curriculum at the post-secondary level .
- Provide internships for students.
- Partner with the Public Schools of Robeson County and the University of North Carolina at Pembroke to further our efforts to enhance science instructors' and students' knowledge of biotechnology instruction.

Biotechnology - A Growing Industry

- North Carolina is ranked #2 in agriculture biotechnology in the United States.
- North Carolina's biotech industry is growing at a rate of 10 –15% per year.
- North Carolina ranks No. 3 in the nation in the number of biotechnology companies for the third consecutive year, (Ernst & Young's 2006 Industry Survey).

Biotechnology Employment Outlook

- North Carolina has 350 bioscience companies that generate \$3 billion in revenue and employ 45,000 people.
- Biotechnology jobs pay well. Entry-level bio-process technicians typically earn between \$25,000 and \$30,000 a year and move up to \$50,000 after five years.
- The average salary for these positions in North Carolina is well above the average pay for other manufacturing jobs, which are declining in number.

Robeson Regional Biotech Education Consortium Goals

- Improve the technical and pedagogical biotechnology skills of secondary and post-secondary educators in southeastern North Carolina.
- Improve RCC's biotechnology/bioagricultural curriculum, resulting in well-prepared technicians and articulation with the University of North Carolina at Pembroke biotechnology baccalaureate program.
- Increase the number of technicians and researchers in the field of agricultural biotechnology.

Project Activities

- Placement of student interns in various local industry settings.
- Round table discussions for bioagricultural industries and related professionals.
- Professional speaker seminars.
- Professional development activities, including hands - on laboratory experiences for secondary school teachers.
- Provide agricultural professionals workshops to obtain input into instruction.

