



**COASTAL
AHEC**

Area Health Education Center

Non-Profit
Organization
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"A Stepping Stone to a Healthier Community"

*This publication is
available in electronic
form upon request*

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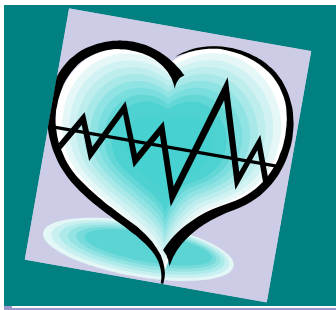
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Welcome back! Gear up for the new school year with an exciting opportunity for your students... a look into their future in a healthcare career!

My name is Miriam Easley and I am the Health Careers Promotions Program Coordinator for Coastal AHEC. I offer health career-oriented classroom presentations, career fairs, and other health career resources. These activities can help foster educational interest for students of all ages. If you are interested in additional information or booking an event, please contact me by phone or e-mail.

I hope that you will take advantage of my helpful resources. Thanks, and I look forward to getting your students interested in health careers.

— Miriam Easley



Coastal AHEC

Summer 2008

The Pulse:

Your lifeline to health careers

Biotechnology: The Workforce of the Future

What is Biotechnology?

Biotechnology is the science for this century. With its advances, humans have expanded their understanding of the biosphere by journeying into space and exploring the depths of the ocean. We have not only been able to look at the surrounding universe and the depths below with advancement of tools and techniques, but we also have been able to live there. Biotechnology is utilizing the sciences of biology, chemistry, physics, engineering, computers, and information technology to develop tools and products that will change our futures.

What is Biotechnology doing for us?

- Biotechnology is a **\$30 billion a year industry** that has produced **160 drugs and vaccines**
- There are more than **370 biotech drug products and vaccines currently in clinical trials**
- Biotechnology is responsible for hundreds of **medical diagnostic tests** that keep the blood supply safe from the aids virus and detect other conditions early enough to be successfully treated
- Consumers already are enjoying **biotechnology foods** such as papaya, soybeans, and corn. Hundreds of biopesticides and other agricultural products are being used to improve our food supply and reduce our dependence on conventional chemical pesticides
- **Environmental biotechnology** products make it possible to clean up hazardous waste more efficiently
- **DNA fingerprinting**, a biotech process has dramatically improved criminal investigations and forensic medicine, as well as afforded significant advances in anthropology and wildlife management
- Biotechnology is one of the most **research intensive** industries in the world. The U.S. Biotech industry spent \$7.9 billion on research and development in 2003 alone



Spotlight: Careers in Biotechnology

Biotechnology is an important part of many jobs. To prepare for a career in Biotechnology, a person should learn as much as possible about biology, chemistry, and other sciences.

The following are just a few examples of careers in the field of Biotechnology:

Biotechnology Researcher
Biotechnologist
Genetic Engineer
Veterinarian
Veterinary Tech
Laboratory Technician
Radiologist
Radiology Technician
Forensic Scientist

For more information on careers in Biotechnology, visit
<http://www.careervoyages.gov/biotechnology-main.cfm>

COMING SOON: **Biotechnology Summit– Fall 2008**

Several organizations, colleges, universities, and biotechnology industry leaders are teaming up again to bring you an exciting opportunity to learn about and experience careers in biotechnology. Keep on the lookout for more information regarding our Biotechnology Summit occurring later this semester.

For more information, please contact
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