



# News Release

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## **Teachers’ Workshop Partners sanofi pasteur with The National Association of Biology Teachers**

Recently, sanofi pasteur and the National Association of Biology Teachers (NABT) partnered for a workshop, *Vaccines: Pox to Pandemics*, for biology teachers in the northeastern region. The partnership created an invaluable learning experience for teachers and will impact students by incorporating real-world knowledge and happenings into their biology class curriculum.

Seventy teachers representing 40 high schools and colleges from Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania attended this day-long workshop at sanofi pasteur’s United States corporate offices in Swiftwater, PA. Biology teachers spent their morning in sessions about the history of vaccines and vaccines for the twenty-first century. Dr. Jeffrey Jahre from St. Luke’s Hospital was the luncheon keynote speaker with the presentation *Focus on the Flu: Seasonal Flu, Avian Flu, and Pandemic Flu*. In the afternoon, teachers selected to attend two of four workshops: *Protecting the Herd: Effectiveness of Vaccination Programs*; *Microscopists Do It with Resolution: Can I See a Virus?*; *AIDS Vaccine Case Study*; and *Defining Life: Viruses – Living or Non-living*.



Dr. Patricia Waller, President of NABT, commented, “I see this first partnership and workshop as a success for the teachers. All the teachers, who wrote an evaluation or who spoke to me personally said they had something to take back to share with their students.” She added, “The sanofi scientists took the time to talk with the teachers in a way that allowed for an exchange of ideas – a conversation with colleagues.” Dr. Waller has taught biology for 40 years on all academic levels – teaching grades 5 through graduate school.

Sessions were led by leading scientists and researchers, such as Dr. Fred Ruben, Dr. Sanjay Guruanthan, Dr. Sam Lee and Dr. Mary Kate Reeves from sanofi pasteur; Dr. Kip Bollinger, Pennsylvania Society for Biomedical Research; Alan Paris, Leica Microsystems; and Ramil Sapinoro, University of Rochester Medical Center.

Dr. Jacqueline S. McLaughlin, NABT Chair of the Four-Year College/University Section, stated, “The day will always be remembered as a valued component to each participant’s understanding of virology, vaccine production, pandemics, and research and teaching strategies in this field. Participants learned how to be a catalyst to blend real-world research with teaching in their classrooms.” Dr. McLaughlin is an Assistant Professor of Biology at Penn State Lehigh Valley and the Founding Director of CHANCE, a professional development program.



“We are extremely thankful for sanofi pasteur’s willingness to open its doors to high school and college teachers from northeastern United States and give so generously of its time, talents, and knowledge of vaccine production and pandemics. The updated information the teachers received will empower them to inspire future biologists in their classrooms for years to come,” said Pamela P. Tabery, NABT Board Member. Tabery has taught for 35 years at Northampton Community College in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, where she has served as biology department coordinator and science (faculty) cluster leader.

The National Association of Biology Teachers is “the leader in life science education.” To date, more than 9,000 educators have joined NABT to share experiences and expertise with colleagues from around the globe, keep up with developments in the field, and grow professionally.

Sanofi pasteur is the largest company in the world committed to the development and production of vaccines. With a global presence that includes 150 offices worldwide, the company produces more than a billion doses of vaccines to provide immunization for more than 500 million people in the world. Sanofi pasteur is a division of the sanofi-Adventis Group, the third largest pharmaceutical company in the world.

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