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July 9, 2007

Dear National Ocean Sciences Bowl (NOSB[®]) Past Participants and Coaches,

As we mark ten years of national competition, the National Ocean Sciences Bowl continues to thrive and expand as one of this nation's premier ocean science education programs. The 2007 NOSB was represented in 25 regional locations with over 2,000 students participating across the country. With over 16,000 student and teacher contacts since the program's inception, we are extremely proud of all that NOSB has become. As past participants, we welcome your continued involvement.

In 2006 we began a longitudinal research study, tracking the accomplishments of past NOSB participants as they've traveled a variety of career and college paths. I thank those students who have registered for this study and who have completed the surveys for the first year of this effort. Select findings from this first year can be obtained on the study web page cited below.

As this study expands into its second year, I invite all past NOSB participants who have not previously registered to join us in this important research. To participate, please register at <http://www.coexploration.org/nosb>. You will then be contacted via email by Drs. Tina Bishop and Howard Walters, the researchers directing the study. Participants will be asked to complete two on-line surveys each year to monitor their college and career activities.

It is important for this nation that we better understand how exemplary students—such as our NOSB participants—make decisions regarding college and careers. The few minutes invested in completing these surveys will provide us with valuable data in obtaining future support for NOSB. We hope all NOSB students will join us to strengthen and improve this recognized national ocean science education program.

Sincerely,



Dick West
President, CORE