

Copernicus ...

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On October 4, 2004, the University of California, Riverside announced the award of an \$11.5 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education to develop and implement a comprehensive program to identify prospective science teachers early, educate them in science content, process, and research-based teaching strategies by implementing a mentoring program.

Science is one of the subjects of greatest need, both state wide and nationally. The National Science Foundation has estimated that the nation's schools will need to hire 240,000 middle and high school science and mathematics teachers

in the coming decade.

This five-year grant has funded the Copernicus Project. The Copernicus Project is a partnership among K-12 schools, the University of California, Riverside, and other universities and colleges in the region. The program is designed to increase the number, quality and diversity of the state's science teachers and become a nationally recognized model program for science education. The partners include Corona-Norco, Moreno Valley, Palm Springs, and Riverside Unified School Districts and the Riverside County Office of Education.

Some Copernicus Project elements include:

- UCR's Summer Science Institutes for secondary science teachers provide unique opportunities

for teachers to collaborate with teacher education leaders, university science faculty, and science education colleagues. To date, twenty-four CNUSD science teachers have attended Summer Science Institutes.

- High school students who attend UCR's Summer Science Institutes will learn about teaching opportunities in science and receive dynamic instruction by experts based on K-12 subject content standards. So far, seven high school students have attended Summer Science Institutes and have developed and taught science lessons to elementary schools in the District.
- Development at UC Riverside of a science blended program, which directs college freshmen with an interest in teaching into

a science curriculum that includes early field experiences and highlights teaching strategies that meet or exceed K-12 content standards.

- Partnerships with school districts for teacher placements, internships and professional development for teachers and administrators.

The project's bottom line reflects what research has underscored: That the single most important element in the achievement of students is the quality of their teachers.

BECOME A PART OF CNUSD ...VOLUNTEER!

Corona-Norco Unified School District needs you!

Yes! I am interested in the following areas:

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reading to/with children | <input type="checkbox"/> Classroom Tutor | <input type="checkbox"/> Library Helper |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Computer lab helper | <input type="checkbox"/> Translator | <input type="checkbox"/> Office Worker |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Playground assistant | <input type="checkbox"/> Beautification projects | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Special event assistance for individual schools | | |

(Career Day, History Day, Science Fairs, Business Partners)

Name _____

Phone _____

Address _____

Preferred School _____

Return this form to: CNUSD Community Relations
2820 Clark Avenue, Norco CA 92860