

RESPONDING TO FINDINGS OF THE EVALUATION PROGRAM

The results of the various stages of the evaluation program have been provided to the PIs on a periodic basis and allowed them to take an active role in soliciting for new workshops to fulfill the needs of the target audience, engage workshop presenters in discussion regarding the content and level of individual workshops, and to refine the operations of the Center itself. Examples of modifications to the Center's activities, ranging from the simple to thorny, include modifications to the application and reimbursement procedures to assure timely response to participants, provision of computers and rooms for after-hours discussions, and modification of the level of the content of a workshop (for example, the use of instructional-grade equipment rather than research grade instruments). Participant input has also been useful in soliciting workshops on new topics (Green Chemistry, Environmental Chemistry) and scheduling. While most participants receive travel support from their home institution, this expense has caused some concern among participants. In response, the Center has occasionally offered partial support for travel to a limited number of participants, *and established a rotation of workshops between locations*. For example, the Proteomics workshop moved from Georgia State University to the University of Hawaii in 2005, and in 2006 it will be presented at the University of Puerto Rico. The latter two institutions are in EPSCoR locations, and serve Pacific Island and Hispanic student populations, respectively. The lead presenters from Georgia State partnered with *local faculty members* to offer these programs. Similarly, the Combinatorial Synthesis workshop has rotated between two institutions, workshops based on Materials Chemistry have been offered at different locations, and the original presenters of the Computational and Theoretical Chemistry workshop moved the workshop from Georgia Tech to Westminster College in Utah where a *previous participant* took on the role of lead-presenter. In 2006, the computational chemistry workshop will be held at Jackson State University, Mississippi, an HBCU in an EPSCoR state, where the focus will be modeling of biomolecules. Similarly, the Environmental Chemistry Workshop will be held at Hampton University in 2006. The latter two workshops are scheduled to be offered multiple times at these institutions in the schedule contained in this proposal.