May 7, 2019

CT AHEC Supports STEM Workforce Development at Symposium

The Connecticut Junior Science and Humanities Symposium (JSHS) was again hosted by CT AHEC at UConn Health in Farmington.

Over 200 participants from 35 high schools either competed with or observed STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) research presentations as well as took part in career panels, an ethics exercise, and research lab tours and demonstrations, including EASTCONN’S Mobile STEM Lab. JSHS presents students with problems facing society and challenges them to be the workforce that will make the discoveries to solve these problems.

Five of Connecticut’s top competitors earned a spot at the National JSHS in Albuquerque,
New Mexico, last month. There, three Connecticut students especially stood out: **Hannah Goldenberg**, who placed first in the biomedical sciences oral competition, for linking continued use of e-cigarettes to chronic obstructive pulmonary disease; **Raina Jain**, who placed second in the environmental science oral competition, for control of mite infestation in a honeybee hive preventing the collapse of the colony; and **Hiba Hussain**, who placed second in the medicine poster competition, for creating a smartphone app to help prevent heart disease and stroke in the very early stages. The students attend Greenwich High School.

JSHS is organized by the National Science Teachers Association with the sponsorship of the U.S. Army, Navy and Air Force to encourage young people to pursue careers in STEM. CT JSHS is yet another example of how CT AHEC is preparing the state’s workforce for tomorrow.

The statewide Connecticut Area Health Education Center (CT AHEC) Network, based at UConn Health, is implemented through four regional centers which enable the CT AHEC Network to provide high-quality, efficient, effective and flexible services that meet local needs. Thank you for your continued support of the CT AHEC Network.

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