STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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Two New Jersey High Schools Rank with Best in Nation in Internet Science Fair

Student teams from two New Jersey high schools were among four winners nationally in a competition designed to identify high quality projects that apply cyber skills (using the Internet) to real world issues.

The teams, from the Bergen Academies in Hackensack and from Governor Livingston High School in Berkeley Heights, reaped top honors in the 2002 Internet Science and Technology Fair. The fair, hosted by the College of Engineering and Computer Science at the University of Central Florida, attracted entries from 214 elementary, middle and high school student teams representing 20 states.

"This is an exciting and outstanding achievement," said Commissioner of Education William L. Librera. "Congratulations to the 16 students, their teachers and their parents on such an extraordinary showing.

"We are proud of our schools in New Jersey, and news of this honor reaffirms our belief that New Jersey students can perform at the highest levels, anywhere," Commissioner Librera said.

The teams from the Bergen Academies and Governor Livingston High School joined teams from Daytona Beach and Fresh Meadows, New York in winning the highest award from the National Medal of Technology Program of the U.S. Department of Commerce.

The four-student team from the Bergen Academies submitted a project entitled *VoiceSign,* dealing with voice recognition security technology. The premise of *VoiceSign* is that people's locations can be tracked using voice-print recognition technology. The Bergen students are Thomas Belulovich, Jacob Sanders, Karol Kalinowsky, and John Vasicko.

The 12-student team from Governor Livingston High School submitted a project entitled *The Athena Project,* dealing with pathological agent detection. The project's aim is to target bioterrorism with a system for detecting bioagents in the environment and evacuating populations from threatened areas. The Governor Livingston students are: Nicole Banerjee, Thomas Chen, Chun-Cheng Chang, Jason Corwin, Jason Crowl, Matthew Fox, David Huber, Neha Kaushik, Shaun Modi, Benjamin Nham, Derrick Ongchin, and David Tuder.

The teams were guided by their teachers, Dr. Jennifer Martino of Governor Livingston High School and Evelyn Rios of the Bergen Academies. Technical advisors were John Riley of Agere Systems for Governor Livingston and Brad Clements for the Bergen Academies. Corporate sponsors for the teams were Agere Systems and Electronic Industries Foundation for Governor Livingston and Voice Security Systems Inc., for the Bergen Academies.

The Internet Science and Technology Fair is designed to teach students how to work in teams and communicate using information technology tools as they develop critical thinking skills. Each team applies National Critical Technologies as defined by the federal government to local and national problems using only the Internet and e-mail. The teams communicate with subject matter experts and present their four-month research reports in web site format.

For more information about the winners and their projects, visit:

http://istf.ucf.edu/winners