

2010 Summer Research Symposium

The 9th Annual WV-INBRE Summer Research Symposium was held at the Robert C. Byrd Health Sciences Center of West Virginia University, July 29th, 2010. The morning session of the program began with oral presentations by four student interns, a project investigator and a high school teacher supported by the WV-INBRE/HSTA initiative. Following a luncheon, a poster session was held where eighty presentations were made by summer interns and a fellow who conducted research at WVU, Marshall University, and West Virginia State University during the 9-week summer research program as well as faculty and students conducting research at their home institutions.

The keynote speaker was Dr. Kenneth Tew, the John C. West Chair of Cancer Research, Department of Cell & Molecular Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics, Hollings Cancer Center, Medical University of South Carolina. Dr. Tew's presentation, "**Cancer Drug Discovery and Development: Academics, Biotechnology or Industry**", described the processes by which drug discovery and development occur and the steps required for drug approval. He stated that the future of drug discovery will involve systems biology and the need to "think outside the box". Dr. Tew provided a personal perspective discussing his work on cancer drug discovery in an academic setting utilizing glutathione and glutathione-S-transferase pathways. Various career pathways in drug discovery and development in academics, biotechnology and industry and the contributions that can be made in each were illustrated.