# 2014 Ad Astra Chemistry Advanced Placement Summer Institute for New AP Teachers July 21-24, 2014

### **Institute Overview**

The AP Chemistry institute is designed to assist AP teachers in building the foundations for success in teaching AP Chemistry. Emphasis will be placed on the rigor of the material that students need to be successful on the AP Chemistry exam. An emphasis will be placed on the new curriculum framework and its implementation in your classroom. We will review the requirements on the course audit and the syllabus requirements. Time will be allowed for best practices and for sharing ideas as a group. Laboratory investigations will be incorporated with the discussion of the theory, with special emphasis on student-inquiry labs.

### **Consultant Background**

Todd Abronowitz currently teaches all levels of chemistry at Parish Episcopal School in Dallas. Previously, he was the lead AP Chemistry teacher for Dallas ISD. Prior to this, he has taught at John Paul II High School in Plano (and served as science department chair) for five years. He has also taught at Creekview High School, in the Carrollton-Farmers Branch ISD for 8 years, South Garland High School (Garland ISD) for six years. He has served as the lead chemistry teacher at Creekview High School. Since starting his teaching career in 1990, he has taught regulars chemistry, honors chemistry, Pre-AP Chemistry and Advanced Placement Chemistry. He has started three AP chemistry programs, at South Garland HS, Creekview HS, and most recently at John Paul II HS. He is involved with several professional organizations: Science Teachers Association of Texas (STAT), Associated Chemistry Teachers of Texas (ACT2), and the American Chemical Society. He has presented workshops at several STAT Conferences for the Advancement of Science Teaching and Southwest Regional Meeting of the American Chemical Society. He has presented at two-day conferences and one-day conferences for the College Board and been the presenter for APSI in Texas and Arkansas. He served as a State Chemistry Textbook Review member for Texas in 2001. He was co-founder of a Traveling Science Show that preformed shows across the DFW Metroplex. He wrote his own laboratory manual and study materials for use in his AP chemistry class. Mr. Abronowitz has received numerous awards including NMSI All-American Teacher of the Year 2012, Shultz Award for outstanding high school chemistry teacher from the DFW section of the ACS, Radio Shack National Teacher Award, Associated Chemistry Teachers of Texas Teacher of the Year in 2000, and Wal-Mart Teacher of the Year 1996.

### **Institute Topics**

The 2014 institute topics and sequence of presentation will be determined by the group as a whole (responses to a pre-conference survey). Topics may include the following:

- New test format
- Equilibrium
- Thermodynamics
- Kinetics (non-calculator and calculator approaches)
- Electrochemistry
- multiple choice strategies
- acid-base chemistry

atomic structure and periodicity

## What participants should bring:

- Proper laboratory attire, i.e. goggles, apron or lab coat, closed-toe shoes
- TI graphing calculator (one will be provided if you do not have one)

# What participants will take with them:

· A copy of everything developed for Pre-AP Chemistry and AP Chemistry by the lead consultant

# **Graduate Credit Option**

Participants may also earn three graduate education hours for any of the AP Summer Institutes from Washburn University for a reduced tuition rate the successful completion of an academic assignment.

### **Additional Information**

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