



## Workshop Unites Regional Students with Nanotechnology

On November 6, EMSL's hallways and laboratories were filled with some of the Pacific Northwest's brightest adolescent minds as more than 80 middle school students—along with their parents—learned about the emerging field of nanotechnology.

Sponsored by Johns Hopkins University Center for Talented Youth (CTY), the workshop brought students together with prominent nanotechnology experts from EMSL; the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL), on whose campus EMSL resides; and regional academic institutions such as the University of Idaho, University of Washington, and Washington State University. The workshop was one of seven that CTY sponsored during October and November at locations in Boston, New York, California, Virginia, Maryland, and Washington State, and signaled the first time that PNNL was invited to host one of the Family Academic Conferences since the CTY was established in 1979. Students who participated were required to take a test before being selected by the CTY to attend.

Coordinated by EMSL user Don Baer—who also serves as deputy manager of PNNL's nanoscience and nanotechnology initiative, the workshop included a welcome speech from interim EMSL Director Allison Campbell and a keynote speech from PNNL nanotechnology expert Paul Burrows. Students then broke into small-group sessions where they were immersed in subjects such as carbon nanotubes, nano robots, and nanoparticles and introduced to the user facility's state-of-the-art nanotechnology equipment.

“It's nice to see the equipment and facilities of a federally run lab,” said Tim Long, an eighth-grade student from Sedro-Woolley, Washington, who decided after his visit to add nanoscientist to his growing list of potential careers that included chemist, astrophysicist, and aerospace engineer.

“I've had a lot of fun—especially the session where we discussed nano robots,” added 13-year-old David Grunzweig of Spokane, who agreed that the workshop stimulated his imagination. “It was fun to come up with our own ideas about how they would work.”

For more information, contact Don Baer (509-376-1609).

P.O. Box 999 Richland, WA 99352 • <http://www.emsl.pnl.gov> • 509-376-2553

**Pacific Northwest  
National Laboratory**  
Operated by Battelle for the  
U.S. Department of Energy



**Office of  
Science**  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

November 8, 2004