FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Scripps Research Institute to Host Seminar for High School Science Teachers

La Jolla, CA. February 1, 1995 — The Scripps Research Institute (TSRI) will host a day-long seminar for high school science teachers, "Contemporary Issues in Biomedical Research," on Friday, February 3, 1995, on the Scripps campus. The purpose of the program is to acquaint the teachers with some of the latest developments in current basic biomedical science, provide information on the skills required in today's environment to pursue a career in science, and suggest ways to make laboratory science more accessible to high school students and teachers.

The program is being coordinated with the Partnerships in Education Program of the San Diego City Schools.

According to William H. Beers, Ph.D., TSRI Senior Vice President, "The Institute shares a commitment with many other research organizations to maintain this country's preeminence in science. We feel a responsibility to the community to guide and assist students and provide them with opportunities to explore and pursue educational and career paths in the life sciences. By working closely with teachers, we feel that we can begin to have a positive effect on the educational system and help to bring the excitement of science into the classroom."

Janet Delaney, Director of the Partnerships in Education Program, San Diego City Schools, notes, "We need to end the isolation of teachers in the classroom and give them a new awareness of what is happening in the business community and in the private sector. It is
important for our educators to begin to instill a relevance for today’s complex and challenging work environment in their students. Creating a smooth transition from the classroom to the workforce is one of our goals."

The morning session will consist of formal presentations by Dr. Beers; Paula Dean, Vice President of Human Resources and Education; Ernest Beutler, M.D., Chairman of the Department of Molecular and Experimental Medicine; and Gerald Joyce, M.D., Ph.D., Associate Member of the Departments of Chemistry and Molecular Biology.

The presentations will be followed by small group tours to specialized facilities throughout the Institute, including the nuclear magnetic resonance facilities, electron microscopy, research computing center, General Clinical Research Center, transgenic plant facilities, mass spectroscopy, optical spectroscopy, protein and nucleic acids core facility, and molecular graphics laboratory.

At the lunch hour, teachers will have an opportunity to interact with predoctoral students who are enrolled in the Institute’s Program of Graduate Studies. Established in 1989, the program offers a doctoral degree in Macromolecular and Cellular Structure and Chemistry, as well as a Ph.D. in Chemistry.

During the afternoon sessions, teachers will participate in small group discussions with members of TSRI’s scientific staff in the areas of cell biology, chemistry, immunology, molecular biology, molecular and experimental medicine, neurobiology, neuropharmacology, and vascular biology. These workshops will allow teachers to gain insight into individual areas of bioscience, as well as the scientists' personal career paths leading to careers in research.

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Note to electronic media: There will be a number of opportunities for interesting visuals during the tours, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.