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Dr. Frank Frisch to Head STAR Institute

ORANGE, Calif., June 20, 2006 -- Dr. Frank Frisch has joined the Chapman University School of Education's Science Teaching And Research (STAR) Institute as its Scientific Director. A longtime member of Chapman's Department of Biological Sciences, Dr. Frisch holds his Ph.D. from USC and is a two-time recipient of one of Chapman's highest faculty honors, the Valerie Scudder Award for Excellence in Teaching, Research, Advising and Service.

Of his deep commitment to science education, Dr. Frisch says, "To develop great scientists we must first develop highly literate high school graduates in the sciences."

In order to accomplish this goal, adds Dr. Don Cardinal, dean of the School of Education, "the STAR Institute must offer services to support current science and math teachers and help in the development of new teachers."

The fundamental premise of the STAR Institute is that mathematics and science must be integral to schools, not merely stand-alone areas of study. The institute's objectives are to increase the number of science and mathematics teachers in Orange County and to enhance the knowledge and skills of teachers by offering continual in-service training and support.

Dr. Frisch will assist the Institute in implementing more than \$2 million in current federal, state and foundation grants, as well as seeking out new funding.

Dr. Roberta Lessor, dean of Chapman's Wilkinson College of Letters and Sciences (of which the biological sciences department is a part), and Dean Cardinal collaborated on a way for the two academic units to work together. The agreement for Dr. Frisch to come to the School of Education is for a two-year period, and the Department of Biological Sciences will hire a new faculty member for this period of time. Dr. Frisch will hold a joint appointment in the School of Education and the Department of Biological Sciences.

Dr. Roxanne Miller will remain the STAR Institute's Education Director and work closely with Dr. Frisch. Dr. Miller said, "The addition of Dr. Frisch to STAR exemplifies the Chapman School of Education's commitment to developing teachers who are grounded in both content and pedagogy. I look forward to our working more closely together toward this goal."

For additional information on the STAR Institute, please contact Dr. Roxanne Miller (rgmiller@chapman.edu) or Dr. Frank Frisch (frisch@chapman.edu).