

MEDIA ALERT – MAY 3, 2006

S.A.'s REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOLS BECOME FORENSIC LABORATORIES FOR A DAY

From the 8th-11th May, young research scientists from the Australian Society for Medical Research (ASMR) will visit several schools in the State's Riverland, Barossa and Clare Valley regions, including Remark, Glossop, Loxton, Waikere, Kapunda, Clare, Riverton and District, and Faith Lutheran High Schools to engage students with stories of "real" life science.

Students will be encouraged to consider careers in health and medical research and given the opportunity to ask questions about pursuing careers in science. The topics covered range from; the day-to-day work of a research scientist, to practicalities such as applying for university courses and accessing services such as housing.

The students will be provided with the opportunity to have hands-on experience in molecular biology and use the DNA fingerprinting technique as seen on many popular crime and detective based T.V. shows

The students will become "forensic scientists" for a day by using real DNA obtained from a simulated crime scene to figure out for themselves "Who done it?"

Tamara Cooper, co-ordinator of the road show, was asked about the first rural schools week and quoted "It wasn't just the students who had all the fun, the teachers loved playing the role of a scientist for a day as well!"

If you would like to arrange an interview or film footage please contact Michelle Zucker, PR officer or Tamara Cooper, co-ordinator of education outreach program. **Or visit the ASMR Website www.asmr.org.au**

Contacts:

Michelle Zucker

ASMR Public Relations Officer (SA Branch)
Office : (08) 83038933
Mobile: 0403537325
Fax: (08) 83038849
Email : Michelle.Zucker@csiro.au

Tamara Cooper

Co-ordinator of education outreach program
Office : (08) 83050628
Mobile : 0439683409
Fax: (08) 83038849
Email : Tamara.Cooper@csiro.au