

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Craig Rowe, 919-416-2872 / rowec@ncssm.edu

The North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics

1219 Broad Street

Durham, North Carolina 27715

NCSSM, IBM to Announce School's Participation In Academic Initiative at Annual Student Research Event; Senior State Executive to Keynote

The program will allow NCSSM faculty and students to access key IBM software with a retail value of more than \$5 million, at no-charge to the school.

IBM's close working relationship with NCSSM is part of an ongoing initiative on the part of the company to encourage young people to consider careers based on science and math, namely fields in technology, engineering and biotechnology.

TIME/DATE/LOCATION

Friday, April 22nd 2005

11:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Bryan Center Lobby / Educational Technology Complex Auditorium

NCSSM Campus, Ninth Street and Club Blvd. entrance

Durham, North Carolina

AGENDA

11:15 a.m. - Student Demonstration – Bryan Center Lobby

Demonstration of NCSSM student computer-science projects/skills in Bryan Center Lobby

11:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m. – Lunch – Bryan Center Lawn

Lunch/cook-out with NCSSM community / in case of rain, in Bryan Center Lobby

1:00 p.m. – 1:20 p.m. – Keynote, Symposium Kick-off – General Assembly Hall - ETC

Welcome: Dr. Gerald Boarman, NCSSM President

Keynote address: Rusine Mitchell-Sinclair, IBM Senior State Executive

Academic Initiative introduction: Gina Poole, IBM Vice President ISV & Developer Relations

>>> *The NCSSM Research Science Symposium will be concurrent for the remainder of the afternoon* <<<

1:20 p.m. – 2:15 p.m. Academic Initiative Demonstration – ETC E-Lab

Students / IBM / Guests to move to hands-on demo of provided resources (software, tools, etc)

2:20 p.m. - 2:35 p.m. – Siemens-Westinghouse Winners Symposium presentations

About NCSSM:

NCSSM opened in 1980 and recruits statewide to educate academically talented 11th and 12th grade students who show promise of exceptional development and/or special interest in science and mathematics. Students accepted to NCSSM are required to live on the Durham campus at the historic site of the former Watts Hospital. Approximately 560 juniors and seniors attend the public high school, living in five residence halls on campus. In 2003, the North Carolina Legislature approved a bill granting tuition costs for any UNC system university to all graduates of NCSSM, starting with the class of 2004.

Information about NCSSM is available by contacting local school guidance counselors, science and mathematics teachers, principals or headmasters of North Carolina secondary schools. If information is not available at a student's home school, please contact the NCSSM Admissions Office at 919-416-2700 or see the School's web site, www.ncssm.edu.

About the IBM Academic Initiative

IBM's Academic Initiative is an innovative global program to collaborate with educators in teaching students the open standards skills necessary to compete and keep pace with changes in the ever-changing I/T workplace, and to prepare them for the jobs of tomorrow. This initiative offers a wide range of technology education benefits that can be scaled to meet the goals of most educational institutions, ranging from large research universities to community colleges and vocational schools. IBM will work with schools that support open standards and seek to use open source and IBM technologies for teaching purposes, both directly and virtually via the Web.

The Academic Initiative provides access to software, hardware, training and course materials at no charge. Through the Academic Initiative portal, more than 60 IBM software technologies are available at no-charge for integration into college curricula to help teach students how to master the fast-growing market of open technologies.

#