Increasing APS Visibility to Undergraduates

Why it Matters—
a Student’s Perspective

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What interested you in plant pathology?

1. Inspiring teacher
   → Most undergraduates never interact with a plant pathologist

2. Positive research experience
   → Are agricultural sciences adequately represented among summer research positions?
Summer research programs in biological sciences, 2009

Based on listings at http://people.rit.edu/~gtfsbi/Symp/summer.htm
Advertised Openings for Undergraduates, Summer 2009

- ~250 in plant sciences
  - 29 universities, 3 corporations, USDA, DOE

- Up to ~110 related to plant disease

- ~30 in applied or field pathology
- ~60 in field crops total
Questions to consider:

- How can we let more undergraduates know about opportunities in agricultural sciences now and down the road?

- How can the agricultural sciences community welcome and support undergraduate summer researchers?

- Should undergraduate research opportunities in field and extension work be expanded?