Dear Sally P. Horn,

Congratulations on a successful submission of your abstract to the 2007 Annual Meeting, San Francisco, California. Your Program Identification Number (PIN) is: 00042581. Your abstract details are as follows:

**Title:** Bringing University Research to Rural Middle Schools in East Tennessee: The University of Tennessee GK-12 Earth Project

**Keywords:** authentic research, climate history, education-graduate, education-K-12, environmental history, GK-12, global change, University outreach

**Type:** Illustrated Paper

**Abstract:** Far too commonly, science is presented in elementary and secondary classrooms as a body of arcane knowledge handed down by inaccessible, distant authorities known as scientists, rather than as a process of investigation and discovery that is fun and exciting and that makes a scientist of anyone who participates. Funded by NSF, the University of Tennessee GK-12 Earth Project focuses on bringing the excitement of research and discovery to rural middle school science classes in east Tennessee. Ten graduate students from the Geography Department and the Earth and Planetary Sciences Department serve as GK-12 Fellows in seven schools spread across four school districts. Each Fellow is paired with a Teacher-Partner selected from highly committed participants in past summer workshops in the natural sciences. The project has a strong focus on the science of climate and environmental history, and most of the Fellows are engaged in graduate research on natural archives of environmental history, including tree rings, sediments, soils, fossils of various kinds, and stable isotopes. GK-12 Earth Fellows work closely with their Teacher-Partners to develop and carry out hands-on science activities that expose rural middle school students to the Fellows' own unfolding research, to other research at the University of Tennessee, and to broader initiatives such as the Integrated Ocean Drilling Program.

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**Topics:** Biogeography  
Geomorphology  
Geography Education

**A/V Equipment:** LCD Projector

If you have checked optional items that require a fee, you will be sent an invoice. All items must be paid in full prior to the meeting.

I understand what equipment is provided in each paper session room and that I am responsible for bringing any equipment that I need and that is not provided, such as my laptop or a laser pointer.

**Notes:** I understand that there will be a 4'x8' posterboard for me to use, but that there will be no other audio visual equipment available.