Southern Illinois University Student Stacey Taft Participated in the
2008 ASM Kadner Institute

Washington, DC (August 18, 2008) — Stacey Taft, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL, was one of 29 senior-level graduate students and early-career postdoctoral scientists who participated in the American Society for Microbiology (ASM) Kadner Institute from July 19 to 23, 2008, at the University of Colorado at Boulder.

The Institute, developed in 2000 by the ASM Education Board Committee on Graduate and Postdoctoral Education, provides a “closely guided experience for graduate students and postdoctoral scientists in key topics important for choosing and succeeding in a microbiology career” says “Shelley M. Payne, Professor of Molecular Genetics and Microbiology at the University of Texas at Austin and Chair of the Committee.

At the four-and-a-half-day Institute, participants network, explore career options, enhance their grant writing, presentation, and communications skills, and discuss ethics issues. The experience is intense and hands on; beforehand, each participant prepares a 10-page preliminary grant proposal, a 10- to 12-minute scientific presentation, and a curriculum vitae for evaluation by Institute faculty and peers. Career sessions spotlight a wide range of opportunities in the microbiological sciences, including teaching, conducting applied research in industry, and serving in public health, academe, and patent law.

The Kadner Institute is managed by ASM and sponsored by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases and the Burroughs Wellcome Fund. The 2009 Institute will be held from July 19 to 22. For details, please visit www.asmgap.org or contact Ronica Rodela at rrodel@asmusa.org or 202-942-9228.

The American Society for Microbiology is the oldest and largest single life science membership organization in the world, composed of over 43,000 scientists and health professionals. Its mission is to promote research and research training in the microbiological sciences and to assist communication between scientists, policy makers, and the public to improve health, the environment, and economic well-being.

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