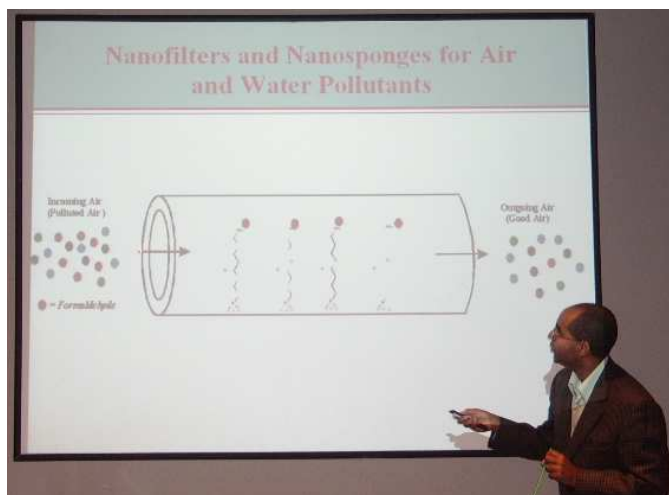


Outreach Activities – Teddy Asefa



Professor Teddy Asefa involves in many Outreach Activities in local Syracuse and Upstate New York area in collaboration with Dr. Peter W. Plumley, Exhibits Project Manager at Milton J. Rubenstein Museum of Science & Technology (MOST), Lisa Brill at MOST and Ms. Gwendolyn L. Maturo at Technology Alliance of Central New York (TACNY). Among the activities that have been carried out and currently underway are:

(1) Summer Science Camp by Onondaga Lake: Summer 2006: Professor Teddy Asefa gave lectures and showed demonstrations to over thirty 8-graders from local Syracuse area on how science and technology and how nanoporous adsorbents can help environmental remediation of polluted lakes and rivers. This lecture and demonstration was done at Honeywell Science Summer Camp at a site just by Onondaga Lake. Onondaga Lake has been one of the most polluted lakes in North America and the development of such nanomaterials by Professor Asefa's group and many researchers worldwide is expected to help the clean up efforts of lakes like Onondaga Lake and polluted watersheds. Many questions were asked by the students and very stimulating

discussion and conversations were carried out after lectures and demonstrations. The students' activities and eagerness to learn were impressive. Such lectures and demonstration is expected to help their interest in sciences.

The title of the talk was: ***“Nanosponges: Efficient Adsorbents to Clean up Waste Chemicals and Pollutants from Lakes and Rivers”***

Professor Teddy Asefa also plans to broaden this activity even further by participating at in the next Honeywell Science Summer Camp in 2007 at the MOST by covering more broad topics of current interest in science and technology, some exhibits and science demonstrations. Topics to be covered in summer 2007 will include:

- 1) NanoSponges: Environmental remediation of lakes and rivers
- 2) Nanomaterials as new energy sources: Tackling energy problems
- 3) Shaping the sizes and shapes on nanomaterials: Getting visible colors

2) Junior Café Scientifique: Professor Teddy Asefa also gives lectures and shows demonstrations for elementary, middle school, and high school students and their parents on hot current topics of nanoscience and nanotechnology at the Junior Café Scientifique at MOST and also in collaboration with the Technology Alliance of Central New York (TACNY). These are also organized with the help of Ms. Gwendolyn L. Maturo at TACNY and Dr. Peter Plumley at MOST. The last lecture and demonstrations given in October 2006 was very successful with full capacity attendance from the Syracuse metropolitan and Upstate New York area and with very educational and stimulating discussions. The kids asked a number of interesting questions and from informal talks I have had, many kids seem to have shown interest in sciences. Such early exposure of kids to sciences is believed to make a difference.

