



*An NSF-sponsored workshop at the National Academy of Sciences
May 24-26, 2006*

For more than a century, the printed textbook has shaped the curriculum in most science, math, and technology disciplines. In little more than a decade, the world-wide-web has given many students 24/7 access to information, interactive exercises, and dynamic simulations. In the face of this new technology, will the reign of the textbook continue or is it time for printed texts to retire, going the way of the abacus and the slide rule?

This week, over 50 scientists, educators, and publishers will gather together at the National Academy of Sciences in Washington, DC. Together, these leaders in their fields will peer into the future and imagine what the most effective mix of learning resources might look like a decade or two from now. As a group, they will work to understand the current alignment or mis-alignment of textbooks, electronic resources, and inquiry-based Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math education. The workshop will conclude with a plan to disseminate this vision to the community in order to catalyze change.

The assembled group includes winners of the National Science Foundation's most prestigious awards for the integration of teaching and research including some of the 35 *Distinguished Teaching Scholars* named in the last 5 years as well as NSF *CAREER* awardees and other leaders in education and technology. A full list of attendees is available at: <http://serc.carleton.edu/textbook/whos.html>

The conference is being organized by Dr. Paul Bierman, Professor of Geology at the University of Vermont and 2005 DTS awardee, with help from Ms. Christine Massey (University of Vermont, College of Education) and Dr. Cathryn Manduca, Director of the NSF-supported, Science Education Resource Center, Carleton College.

For more information:

The workshop web site is <http://serc.carleton.edu/textbook/>

Professor Paul Bierman, Department of Geology and School of Natural Resources,
University of Vermont, Burlington, VT 05405 (802) 656-4411; pbierman@uvm.edu

Dr. Russell Pimmel, Program Director, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson
Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22230, (703) 292-4618; rpimmel@nsf.gov