

November 30, 2020

Dear Tyson community and friends,

We continually strive to be aware of, and responsive to, evolving social conditions. Today is one example of such a response: We are officially announcing the renaming of one of our signature education programs.

Going forward, our program for high school students will be called the **Tyson Environmental Research Apprenticeship (TERA program)**. We plan to refer to our participants as TERA teens or TERAformers, as suggested by one of our teens.

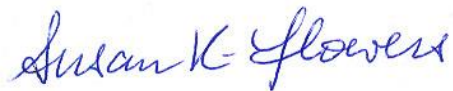
It is important that all aspects of the Tyson Research Center institutional identity reflect our community culture of inclusion and our [commitment to social justice](#). While the previous program name had been in use since 2007, its acronym has become associated with a negative meaning within the social justice sphere that is directly in conflict with our values. A program name change is a small thing if it ensures that our community is known as supportive to all.

We are pleased to continue our educational partnership with Shaw Nature Reserve and the direct connection between the Shaw Institute for Field Training (SIFT) and TERA. Together the two programs provide a jump start for young environmental biologists. Early research experiences are an important part of Tyson's commitment to mentoring the next generation of environmental professionals.

Sincerely,



Kim A. Medley, PhD
Tyson Director



Susan K. Flowers, MA
Tyson Education and Outreach Coordinator

