FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Carolyn Belardo, 215-299-1043, <u>belardo@ansp.org</u> Press Room: <u>www.ansp.org/press</u>

GRANT FUNDS SCIENCE CAREER DAYS FOR PHILADELPHIA PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS

PHILADELPHIA, PA – (June 10, 2011) – The Academy of Natural Sciences is pleased to announce the receipt of a grant from FMC Corporation to help Philadelphia public middle school students and their teachers learn more about the variety of learning and career opportunities in the sciences.

The \$25,000 grant from the Philadelphia-based chemical manufacturer will fund two career days at the <u>Academy</u> for some 800 6th through 8th graders and their teachers. The goal is to showcase the many career opportunities in science, technology, engineering, and math. Participants will learn about local after-school activities such as the Academy's <u>Women in</u> <u>Natural Sciences</u> program which works closely with underserved high school girls. Teachers will learn about Academy resources that will help them integrate math and science into their regular curriculum. Academy scientists will be on hand to describe how they first got interested in science and how they have applied their schooling to their career. Dates for the Career Days have not yet been determined.

"These special <u>FMC</u> career days are an outgrowth of our many years of working with the Philadelphia School District, Temple University, and other cultural institutions to inform and inspire students to pursue science as a career," said Academy Senior Director of Education Jacquie Genovesi. "Studies have shown that teachers need help integrating environmental research and issues across their broader curriculum, and we can help guide that process."

"FMC is very excited about being a part of this incredible opportunity for young people to be able to explore careers in science," said Milton Steele, President of FMC's Agricultural Products Group. "Several of our scientists will participate in these career days to introduce students and their teachers to specific topics, such as the role of biology and chemistry in agriculture and how technology and engineering fit into the development of crop protection products. This will help the students make connections between the science courses they are currently taking and their future as science professionals."

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For information about participating in the career days, teachers can call the Academy at 215-299-1060.

Founded in 1812, the Academy of Natural Sciences is America's oldest natural history museum and a world leader in biodiversity and environmental research. For nearly 200 years, the Academy has carried out its mission to encourage and cultivate the sciences, exploring the remarkable diversity of our natural world and sharing these discoveries with the public through innovative exhibits, publications and educational programming.

FMC Corporation is a diversified chemical company serving agricultural, industrial and consumer markets globally for more than a century with innovative solutions, applications and quality products. The company employs over 4,900 people throughout the world. The company operates its businesses in three segments: Agricultural Products, Specialty Chemicals and Industrial Chemicals.

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HOURS: Monday–Friday, 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Saturday–Sunday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. ADMISSION: \$12 adults; \$10 children 3-12, seniors and students; free for members, children under 3, and active military and up to five family members May 30-Sept. 5. \$2 fee for Butterflies! PHONE: 215-299-1000.

THE ACADEMY OF NATURAL SCIENCES 1900 BENJAMIN FRANKLIN PARKWAY PHILADELPHIA 19103