CONCLUSIONS
To develop an accurate understanding of science as a method of inquiry, students must actively participate in scientific investigations in which they utilize the skills, tools, and techniques associated with the formulation and testing of scientific explanations. Often, we find that students in our introductory biology classes have an incomplete conception of science as a discipline due to their limited experience with science as a method of inquiry. This laboratory investigation is designed to engage students in a full range of activities associated with the scientific endeavor, providing an authentic experience with science as a method of inquiry. Students make observations, are a part of a research team that asks a specific scientific question, formulate hypotheses, devise an investigation, collect and analyze data, and draw conclusions using statistical tools.

Initial feedback suggests that students believe the laboratory experience provides them with an increased understanding of the process of science, the role of statistics in science, the role of hypothesis formulation in scientific investigations, the significance of study design, and enables students to be more comfortable interpreting scientific findings. Students conduct this laboratory investigation early in the semester. We believe it fosters their understanding of the process of science as a method of inquiry, and provides experiences upon which we can encourage them to think and act like scientists.

REFERENCES

Call for Applications -- John Carlock Award
This Award was established to encourage biologists in the early stages of their professional careers to become involved with and excited by the profession of biology teaching. To this end, the Award provides partial support for graduate students in the field of Biology to attend the Fall Meeting of ACUBE.
Guidelines: The applicant must be actively pursuing graduate work in Biology. He/she must have the support of an active member of ACUBE. The Award will help defray the cost of attending the Fall meeting of ACUBE. The recipient of the Award will receive a certificate or plaque that will be presented at the annual banquet; and the Executive Secretary will provide the recipient with letters that might be useful in furthering her/his career in teaching. The recipient is expected to submit a brief report on how he/she benefited by attendance at the meeting. This report will be published in Bioscience.
Application: Applications, in the form of a letter, can be submitted anytime during the year. The application letter should include a statement indicating how attendance at the ACUBE meeting will further her/his professional growth and be accompanied by a letter of recommendation from a member of ACUBE. Send application information to:
Dr. William J. Brett, Department of Life Sciences, Indiana State University, Terre Haute, IN 47809; Voice -- (812) 237-2392 FAX (812) 237-4480; E-mail -- lsbrett@scifac.indstate.edu
If you wish to contribute to the John Carlock Award fund, please send check to: Dr. Pres Martin, Executive Secretary, ACUBE, Department of Biology, Hamline University, 1536 Hewitt Ave., St. Paul, MN 55104.