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**For More Information:**  
**Priscah Mujuru, (304) 293-1447**  
[pmujuru@hsc.wvu.edu](mailto:pmujuru@hsc.wvu.edu)

## **HSTA Students to Study Brain Function via Telecast**

MORGANTOWN, W.Va. – Students throughout West Virginia who are a part of the WV Health Sciences and Technology Academy (HSTA) will have a chance to study brain function without leaving their communities during a Nov. 4 telecast.

“Recent Advances in Understanding the Brain,” presented by WVU Professor George Spirou, Ph.D., will be broadcast from 10 a.m.-noon in locations throughout the state. Dr. Spirou is the director of the WVU Interdisciplinary Center for Neuroscience Department of Otolaryngology, Physiology and Pharmacology.

As an extension of the HSTA-WVU partnership with high schools and the health sciences institutions in West Virginia, the lecture will be provided using interactive television communication technology – two-way audio, two-way video telecommunication in real time. The WVU IViN network now connects WVU with about 10 distant sites throughout the state including education centers, rural hospitals, community colleges and other institutions.

“We sometimes connect directly to the high schools in the state,” said Priscah Mujuru, coordinator of the teleconferences and HSTA research director. “The mini lectures take on different topics at each session. The sessions are highly interactive with students having an opportunity to ask critical questions to enhance their learning.”

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Sites that will be receiving the real-time lecture are: Beckley - Mountain State University Carter Hall (Room 203), Beckley; WVU Robert C. Byrd Health Sciences Center (Room 2024 and 2015), Charleston; Martinsburg High School, Martinsburg; Berkeley Springs High School (Distance Education Center), Berkeley Springs; National Research Center for Coal & Energy, (Assembly Rooms A and B), Morgantown; and Braxton Memorial Hospital (Learning Resource Center), Gassaway.

The teleconference is sponsored by The Robert C. Byrd Health Sciences Center Office of the Vice President. Funding from a National Institutes of Health grant makes this program possible.

For more information, contact the HSTA office at (304) 293-1651, or Priscah Mujuru, (304) 293-1447.

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