



**Oregon
University
System**

Industry Affairs Department

Vice Chancellor of Engineering & Computer Science
CAPITAL Center, Suite 1027
18640 NW Walker Road
Beaverton, OR 97006-8927
Fax (503) 342-3157
Phone (503) 725-2920
<http://www.oregonengineer.org>

Dear Prospective Coach,

It's a very old, but very true saying. "If you become a teacher, by your pupils you will be taught." The same holds true for coaches, especially those helping kids ages 9-14 who want to compete in the LEGO Robotics Competition.

The Oregon Robotics Tournament and Outreach Program (ORTOP), has as its goal getting children, interested in high technology and engineering careers. We need people like you to coordinate and coach teams for the FIRST LEGO League 2002 Oregon State Tournament.

If you believe learning should be a fun, hands-on experience, you are just the woman or man we are looking for. You don't need any experience creating programmable robots, the kids will teach you, with the help of a technology-savvy mentor assigned to your team. Coaches from last year can't say enough about the experience of preparing the students for the tournament, broadening their horizons for school and career options, and cheering on their teams at the tournament.

I know I don't have to sell you on the value of working with kids and exposing them to hands-on experience in the scientific and engineering process. You know it is challenging. You know it takes time. But the excitement when someone has an insight, tests it, and solves the problem, makes it all worthwhile. Once kids get a taste of this kind of success, it's our belief many will follow it to a future in technology right here in Oregon. Thanks to you!

Because girls and minorities are under-represented among Oregon technology professionals, we are making a special effort to increase their participation. More female and minority coaches would help. If you are a good coaching candidate, please check out the web site and sign up for a free orientation workshop. We'll train you to lead teams with kids you already know, or match you to a team who wants to participate, but has no coach.

Remember, the primary role of coaches is team coordination, so technical expertise is not required. We have some incredibly well-qualified people lined up as technical mentors that will be assigned to each team. Be sure to sign up for a free workshop at www.ortop.org. Sign up now, as all teams must be registered before September 30, 2002. The sooner your team is registered the sooner you can order the kits your team will need.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bruce Schafer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Bruce Schafer
Director