Advanced Bio-Imaging for Nanomaterial Environmental Health and Safety: Post-Event Summary

The NNIN-Nano Research Facility at Washington University in St. Louis held a short course, *Advanced Bio-Imaging for Nanomaterial Environmental Health and Safety,* on May 25th, 2012. The half-day short course explored the applications and technical requirements of electron microscopy for nano-bio-imaging. An introductory lecture provided background information on electron microscopy of biological samples and highlighted several studies where electron microscopy was used to investigate interactions between nanoparticles and biological systems. Additional information on operation principles of transmission electron microscopy, scanning electron microscopy, and techniques used for biological sample preparation for electron microscopy was provided in small groups. During the three in-lab demonstrations attendees were able to watch, participate in, and see imaging of biological samples with associated nanoparticles.

Over twenty people registered for the course and nineteen attended, including a research specialist from the Center for Nanoscience at the University of Missouri–St. Louis. The researchers in attendance came from a variety of disciplines, but over fifty percent were from medical sciences. Half of the researchers held post-doctoral or higher positions, while the rest were graduate students. One-third of the attendees were new to the facility.