

Newsletter Date: Summer 2007

Volume 41 Issue 4

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President's Newsletter Message
Janice Koch, ASTE President

Taking Stock at Summer's End...A Busy ASTE Board



It is hard to believe that a new fall semester is upon us as we bid farewell to the summer and to what was, for ASTE Board members, a very busy and productive time. People have asked me why we spend three days at a summer board meeting and I respond with "to tackle the business of the organization." That is what we did this summer in St Louis, meeting place of the 2008 conference, where the ASTE Board convened from June 13 - 16, 2007. The board consists of colleagues who are up to the challenge of running an organization that is growing rapidly and expanding its reach. I want to extend a sincere thank you to Eugene Wagner, our Executive Secretary, who painstakingly made the arrangements with the Hyatt at Union Station where the accommodations and the meeting rooms were superb. Many of you may remember this hotel; we have been there before, at both ASTE (then AETS) and NARST meetings. We welcome you back this year as the 2008 conference planners, William Newman, Kathy Trundle and Meredith Beilfuss are hard at work ensuring a wonderful conference.

This past summer, the Board accomplished a number of important tasks affecting the membership and the future of our organization

This past summer, the Board accomplished a number of important tasks affecting the membership and the future of our organization. The publications committee, chaired by Bill McComas and Randy Bell had a full agenda this year. Some of the highlights of the board's work include the following:

The Board.....

Secured a new editorial team for JSTE, as the excellent Editorial team of Charlene Czerniak completes its tenure (see McComas article inside).

Approved a new editor for CITE. John Park at North Carolina State University in Raleigh, N.C. is the incoming CITE editor.

Resolved that the newsletter becomes fully electronic commencing January 2008.

Approved the proposal for a new ASTE monograph edited by Katherine Weiseman and Molly Weinburgh titled *Becoming and Being: Women's Experiences in Leadership in K-16 Science Education Communities*.

Approved the proposal by professional development committee chair Kevin Finson, that the *Journal of Elementary Science Education* becomes an ASTE journal, to be published 4 times/year with glossy cover beginning January 2008.

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President's message continued

Approved the development of a membership flyer with the help of membership committee chair Rick Pomeroy and the assistance of Lynn Bell.

Approved a motion to go to fully online voting (paper ballot available on request) to elect ASTE officers, Board Members and Election Committee Members beginning this fall (see article and candidates inside).

Approved an ad-hoc committee of the board to explore the possibility of ASTE taking on NCATE training. The committee includes Jon Pedersen (chair), Herb Brunkhorst, Kathy Norman, and Janice Koch.

Developed a survey to explore the use of the National Science Education Standards by our membership.

Voted to approve the slate put forward by the election committee chaired by Mary Atwater.

Although just a sampling of the work we did this summer, this list gives you an idea of the path we are taking as our membership climbs to over 800 people representing science teacher educators, scientists, science coordinators and supervisors, and informal science educators. As we approach the fiftieth anniversary of the Russian launch of Sputnik on October 4, 2007, we can see that science education is once again at the forefront of the education crisis in our country.

Appropriately, a suggestion was made to have ASTE create another monograph to discuss:

1. Research in science teacher preparation.
2. Best practices in teacher preparation.

Janice Koch moved to create an ad-hoc committee of the board on research in science teacher preparation. Several members of the board volunteered to be on that committee. They are Herb Brunkhorst, Kathy Norman, Jon Pedersen, Penny Gilmer, Randy Bell, Bill McComas, and Warren DiBiase. It is designed to describe areas of research in science education that ASTE will give voice to.

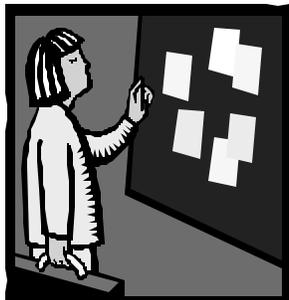
Visit our website at TheASTE.org and click on "About us." A photo of the leadership team, compliments of Awards Committee Chair Penny Gilmer, and a list of the board members and committee members are available at this site.

To close my remarks, I want to thank Kathy Norman, Past President and Warren DiBiase, President-elect for their support as we function for a second year as a "Presidential Team." ASTE is committed to transparent leadership and shared vision and responsibility. We have had and will continue to have a dedicated leadership team. As we continue, PLEASE remember to vote. As indicated in this newsletter - it is easy - it is online! Please think about joining a committee and/or placing your name or a colleague's name in nomination for a position on the board or the elections committee. Have a very productive fall semester.

Save the Date: January 10- 13, 2008 ASTE Conference in St. Louis

Register Online Starting November 1, 2007.

For more information, watch for the November Newsletter!



Announcements

Eugene P. Wagner is the Executive Secretary of ASTE. He may be contacted at:

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New Editors for the JSTE

The members of the Board of Directors of ASTE are very pleased to announce their unanimous selection of Purdue University's Center for Research and Engagement in Science and Mathematics Education as the home of the editorial offices of the *Journal of Science Teacher Education (JSTE)* for the next five years. The new co-editors will be John Staver, Professor of Science Education and Chemistry and Lynn Bryan, Associate Professor of Science Education and Physics. John and Lynn will be supported by a diverse and experienced team of six associate editors representing a wide variety of scientific disciplines and science education specialties. The Board is delighted by the selection of this team and looks forward to working with Professors Staver and Bryan as they build on the work done by Charlene Czerniak and her colleagues at the University of Toledo. Charlene and her editorial team have helped the *JSTE* reach a new level of professionalism and impact. 2008 (Vol 19) will be a transition year. Beginning January 1, 2008, the Purdue editorial team will handle all new manuscripts. The Toledo editorial team will devote 2008 to handling only those manuscripts that are already under consideration prior to January 1, 2008. Volume 20(1) 2009 will be the first issue edited by the Purdue editorial team. The Board would further like to thank Dean George W. Hynd of the Purdue College of Education for his much appreciated support of this endeavor. We know that the journal will thrive under the leadership of John and Lynn, their team and the assistance provided by the Dean and University.

ASTE Election Announcement

"The 2008 ASTE election process will be completely electronic. To cast your vote, go to <http://TheASTE.org>. You will need your ASTE PIN and last name to log in. If necessary, you may obtain your PIN through the ASTE website. Email Eugene Wagner at ExecutiveSecretray@TheASTE.org with any questions or if you wish to have hard copy of the ballot.

The deadline for voting is November 15th."

Please do vote today!

Candidates for PRESIDENT

Jon Pedersen

Brief Bio:

I began my career as a high school chemistry and physics teacher. In 1990 I completed my PhD at the University of Nebraska and became an Assistant Professor at the University of Arkansas. During my tenure there, I served as Co-Director/co-developer of the Center for Middle Level Education, Research and Development and Undergraduate and Graduate Coordinator. In 1995, I moved as an associate professor to East Carolina University. While at ECU I held several leadership positions including Director of Partnership Research, Interim Department Chair, and Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Studies. In 2000, I moved to the University of Oklahoma as Full Professor in the Instructional Leadership and Academic Curriculum Department and currently serve as Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Studies. I have been active in several national organizations including: ASTE, NARST, AACTE, AERA and NSTA. Within ASTE, I have served and chaired numerous committees throughout my 17-year membership and served as Executive Secretary (1998-2002), a Board Member and on the Editorial Review Board for JSTE. I have authored more than eighty publications on social issues and science teaching in JSTE, JRST, SSMJ, Science Education, as well as other journals. I have published four books (two additional published in 2007) and a teacher manual for robotics. I have Directed, Co-Directed, and served as PI and Co-PI for numerous grants within the U.S. and internationally. I have also directed programs in science education in Bolivia, and have worked in over a half-a-dozen countries around the world.

Position Statement

I am humbled to be a nominee for ASTE President. I have always considered ASTE to be my "home" organization and have been honored to serve the organization in multiple capacities over my 17 years in higher education. What has impressed me most about ASTE, is the quality of our membership and leadership. We have the best and brightest serving our organization and making a difference in science teacher education. Yet, over the years I have become increasingly aware that ASTE has not always been recognized as "the" leader in science teacher education. As I visit the "Hill" and talk to policy makers it is evident that decisions are made without consideration of what we (ASTE) know. We must become more involved in policy making within our own states and at the national level. My goal for ASTE is to continue to build its reputation and presence at the national level vis-à-vis policy making. This would include, but not be limited to: federal legislation (e.g., Title II-TQE Funding); state legislation (e.g., alternative certification); and, accreditation (NCATE and TEAC). We must become more visible and proactive in multiple venues. For example, we should have more than just a presence or representation within the NCATE process. We should be the leaders and the voice for the process of accreditation for science teacher education programs. We need to make sure that policy makers and others know what we already know: ASTE is the leader in science teacher education.

Meta Vansickle

Meta Van Sickle, Ph.D is a Full Professor. Meta earned her Ph.D. in Science Education at the University of South Florida. She teaches in the secondary education program, was program director for the M.Ed. in Science and Math for Teachers and is a department chair. An active member of several professional societies, Meta is especially active in the Association of Science Teacher Educators. She has served on multiple committees for the ASTE from ad hoc committees such as the mentoring committee, to chairing standing committees such as publications and served as an elected at-large board member. She is equally active in NARST and NSTA.

She has several research interests, from the ethics of care in science education to science for all including the linguistically diverse. A recently published article is "The challenges of co-teaching within a multicultural context" with Drs. Cozart, Cudahy, and ndunda in Multicultural Education. She has consulted on projects geared towards the inclusion of minorities in science and mathematics education.

Another area of interest is the quality of post-secondary science education. Meta has worked closely with professors in the sciences to encourage learner-centered practices and inquiry based teaching for undergraduate science courses. One of the articles from her work in this area is "Transforming teaching" written with a Physics professor and published in the Journal of College Science Teaching. She has published over twenty articles since 1992.

Meta has acted as a co-principal investigator on an NSF grant in conjunction with the Medical University of South Carolina.

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Meta Vansickle's Position Statement

It has been my pleasure to serve the ASTE community in multiple ways over the 17 years that I have been a member. I have many insights into the structure, purposes and organization of the association. By serving on ad hoc committees, regular committees and as an elected at-large member of the board of directors one gains a sense of where the association is and can be. I have attended 17 consecutive ASTE conferences. I love each conference and thoroughly enjoy the mentoring I receive each year.

I believe that the working structure of the association has led to decisions that serve well, such as, attending to finances, and operating procedures. In addition, the rigor and professionalism of science teacher education is clearly developing with the potential for excellent outcomes. The information from our conference sessions is among the products that inform my teaching and I see this area developing even more. The organization also has several strands on policy. To this end, many position statements that help further the cause of science teacher education were developed. I see this as another area that can be extended and refined.

I am hopeful that strategies for ASTE to impact all levels of science teacher education gain funding and allow our members to participate and develop products in meaningful, exciting and rigorous ways for the broader science education community. Finally, I think it is imperative that we begin telling the positive stories about our science teachers and how we help them develop.

Candidates for Board Membership (5)

Rick Pomeroy

Biography

I have been active in ASTE since my first AETS conference in Seattle. I earned my science teaching credential, my MA, and my PhD in Science Education at the University of California, Davis and for the past 15 years, I have been a Lecturer/Supervisor of Science Education at UCD with responsibilities for supervising students and teaching general pedagogy, methods, and technology for single subject pre-service teachers. During this time, I have adapted the science methods curriculum to the National Science Education Standards and aligned instruction with the California Science Standards. Most recently, I have collaborated on the development of an authentic performance assessment instrument to meet the mandate of capstone assessments established by the State of California.

I have been an active participant in ASTE, serving on several committees and as the Co-Chair of the Technology Committee, Chair of the Membership & Participation Committee and as the Regional Director for the Far West Region. Currently, I am the Senior Regional Representative on the ASTE Board of Directors and a member of the Executive Committee. For the past two years, I have worked closely with the ASTE Presidents, and provided support to conference chairs. I have regularly presented embedded workshops, poster sessions and submitted papers at ASTE conferences. As the Far West Region Director, I have coordinated the region conferences in conjunction with the California Science Education Conference. I feel that these experiences have prepared me for a position of leadership in our organization for the next three years.

Position Statement

I believe that ASTE is THE organization that brings together scholarly research, best practice and pedagogy as vehicles for providing high quality science education for all children. As such, I will strive to promote and nurture this agenda in ways that capitalize on the ASTE difference of inclusion and excellence. As a Director at Large, I will have an opportunity to work closely with other Board members to ensure the high quality of our ASTE publications, promote inclusion and equity, recognize outstanding achievements of science educators from graduate students to emeriti and provide pedagogically sound content reinforcement and professional development for our members.

As ASTE grows in numbers, we will be facing new challenges for financial stability and organizational logistics. As a current board member, I have been an active participant in long range planning that addresses the future of ASTE for the next 10 years and I look forward to continuing this critical planning and implementation.

Fifteen years ago, I joined ASTE as a new science education supervisor and was immediately captured by the friendly and supportive nature of the membership and the immediate applicability of the pedagogically sound methods that I experienced at ASTE conventions. As a Director at Large, I will strive to maintain and promote this balance of research and best practice with a special emphasis on supporting graduate students and new faculty as I was supported 15 years ago.

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Additional Board Member Candidate Statements

Kate Popejoy

Biography

I am honored to be nominated for the position of Director at Large for ASTE, as I consider ASTE to be my primary professional organization. I have attended and presented papers at our meetings since 2001. As a member of the Northwest AETS (ASTE) leadership team, I presented our successful proposal to host the 2006 conference to the Board at our 2003 meeting. I then served as the 2006 Portland Conference Co-Chair, primarily in charge of the program. Together with Eugene Wagner, our ASTE Webmaster, I transformed the proposal and review process to a complete online system. For the first time, ASTE proposals and presentations were grouped in Threads, helping to accommodate our growth as an organization. As Program Chair, I recruited Thread Coordinators and reviewers, resulting in relationships with a large number and variety of ASTE members. The 2006 conference was a great success, with the highest attendance and number of papers to that point.

Other service opportunities include:

- Member of ASTE Conference Coordination Committee (now Long-Range Conference Committee) since 2004
- Elections Officer of NW-ASTE for two terms
- Reviewer of ASTE conference proposals since 2002
- Co-Editor, CESI Journal
- Committee membership for NARST, SSMA and SITE
- Manuscript reviewer for science and technology education journals, such as JTATE, SSMA, and EJSE

I pride myself on my work ethic and efficiency in these duties. I believe that I have much to contribute as a Director at Large for ASTE, and look forward to the opportunity.

Position Statement

I am honored to be nominated for the position of Director at Large, as I consider ASTE to be my primary professional organization. I have been an active member of ASTE since my first meeting in 2001; presenting papers and serving as a reviewer and presider since 2002. In addition, I have served two terms as Elections Officer for NW-ASTE. I also had the privilege to be Conference Co-Chair for our 2006 national meeting in Portland, Oregon, for which we launched online proposal submission and review, and for the first time organized the program via Threads. ASTE is a growing and changing organization, and these steps have facilitated our dynamic nature.

As a Director at Large, I would continue to support ASTE in its mission of providing leadership and support for science teacher education through scholarship, innovation and collaboration. As a Conference Co-Chair, I recruited Thread Coordinators and reviewers, resulting in continuing relationships with a large number and variety of ASTE members. I believe these relationships will allow me to represent the interests of our diverse membership as a member of the Board.

In addition, my service in other science and technology education associations will strengthen ties between us, while also promoting ASTE's unique role as the national leader in communicating best practices for science teacher education. I am committed to devoting the time and effort to maintain the excellence of ASTE, and I believe my organizational expertise, enthusiasm and commitment will further strengthen our association.

Dana Zeidler

Biography & Rationale to Serve

I was the first managing editor of the *Journal of Science Teacher Education* back in 1991 and contributed in this capacity for approximately four years. I became active in the regional meetings of ASTE (SAETS at the time) in 1999 and attending each regional meeting since then. I received the outstanding position paper awards for the years 1999 and 2002. During that time, I was asked to be President and host the 2001 regional conference at the University of South Florida, Tampa. I did so and despite the unfortunate timing of post 9/11 (the conference was in October), I believe I provided a good program and venue and we broke attendance records for that conference. I began attending and participating more consistently at the national level in 1999 and attended most of the subsequent national meetings. I was the Conference Chair for the 2007 International ASTE meeting in Clearwater Beach, Florida. Once again, I believe I offered an exciting and academically fruitful program, and again we broke attendance records at that conference. Having served on the conference planning committee and working closely with my predecessors and board members has afforded me the opportunity to immerse myself at the organizational level of ASTE. It is for these reasons that I believe I can work in a collaborative and facilitative fashion to serve the membership of our Association.

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Additional ASTE Officer Candidate Statements

Dana Zeidler's Position Statement

It is my pleasure to be nominated for consideration as your representative to the Board of Directors for ASTE! Having served as the first Managing Editor for the *Journal of Science Teacher Education* in 1991, I have been able to see how our association has grown into an international and leading voice for science teacher education. I have been afforded the opportunity to work with many of you over the years and have striven to enhance the quality of our professional commitments to the field while not losing sight of our personal responsibilities to one another. Accordingly, I have worked to create a sense of openness and a measure of support to those who are new to our association. Having served as President of SASTE in 2001 and hosting that conference at the University of South Florida – Tampa, helped me to develop a sense of community with respect to our regional needs. As the Conference Chair for the 2007 International ASTE Conference at Clearwater Beach, I was given the opportunity to extend that sense of community on a much larger scale. In doing so, I believe I have become keenly aware of the strengths of our association, and been able to work in a collaborative and facilitative fashion to serve the membership of our Association. I intend to bring these same sensibilities into the Boardroom while serving as your representative to ASTE.

Hedy Moscovici

My involvement with ASTE/AETS began in 1992. I could not foresee the impact of this event on my career and professional foci. The friendly, family-like, collaborative and professional atmosphere helped me define and refine teaching ideas, use conference meetings and journals to communicate research findings, provided me with the necessary push to keep me involved and productive, and helped me move from a science education graduate student to a Full Professor.

Since joining ASTE, I have published numerous journal articles in professional journals including JSTE, JRST, Teacher Education Quarterly, SSM, Science and Children, and Research in Science Education; I have written a number of book chapters, with one chapter published in a book sponsored by ASTE; have initiated or joined grant proposals; and have made over 100 conference presentations including many at ASTE. I am active in the ASTE service components as well, sitting on ASTE committees such as the Professional Development, Informal Education and the Election Committee and on the Editorial Boards of two very important publications: JRST and the Teacher Education section of Science Education. Since my selection to the Election Committee I attended a number of Board Meetings to learn more about the management and political issues facing ASTE and its potential to be the international organization concerned with science teaching and learning.

I feel fully prepared for the responsibilities that being on the Board entails. I would be honored to serve on the ASTE Board of Directors and help advance our mission in the 21st century.

Candidates for the Elections Committee

Malcolm B. Butler

The following information highlights my experience with ASTE, as well as other experiences that would serve me well if am selected to run and subsequently elected to the ASTE Elections Committee:

- I have presented at every ASTE annual international conference since 1999, with the exception of 2001 and 2002.
- I have made multiple presentations at several of the southeastern regional ASTE conferences- Tampa, Florida; Gainesville, Florida; and Athens, Georgia.
- I currently serve on the ASTE Membership and Participation Committee.
- I served as the conference chairperson for the 1998 annual conference of the Science Teachers Association of Texas (STAT).
- I was elected president of STAT in 1999.

ASTE Position Statement for Election Committee Candidacy

Since my initial ASTE conference in 1999 (then AETS), I have found this organization to be one that is conducive to supporting scholarship that impacts science teaching and learning. Annually, I present papers and conduct workshops at ASTE's national and regional conferences. Currently, I serve on the organization's Membership and Participation Committee, where we discuss ways to increase our ASTE's membership and explore strategies for increasing access to the workings of organization to our members.

With equity and diversity being cornerstones of my scholarship, if elected to the Elections Committee, I will work diligently to identify and encourage our diverse group of members to consider taking on leadership roles within ASTE. It is through their visionary leadership that ASTE will continue to play a critical role in the local, state, national, and international science education community.

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Additional Election Committee Candidate Statements

Lisa Martin-Hansen

Position Statement:

I am seeking to be a member of the ASTE Election Committee to promote the activities of ASTE in our efforts in creating and maintaining supportive and reflective spaces within our organization where researchers and practitioners share their collective knowledge, research, and experiences for the betterment of science education. It is my belief that our association should continue to seek out and involve graduate students and new faculty to grow new leaders within our association. A particular area in need of attention is in the diversity of our leadership. Mentorship and support of ethnically and racially diverse faculty as well as gender is imperative for new faculty to feel that they can be successful within our community. It is through this exchange that we positively impact K-16+ science education by developing future leaders who support the aims and efforts of ASTE. In these efforts, I have personally worked with other faculty members in both the North Central and South Eastern sections of ASTE to recruit and increase membership at not only our respective universities but also by reaching out to other colleges and universities through collaboration and invitation who are currently not active in ASTE.

Biography

Lisa Martin-Hansen (Ph.D., 2001, The University of Iowa) assistant professor at Georgia State University.

- 8 Years National Membership in ASTE
 - Planning Committee for 2003 St. Louis National Meeting
 - Conference proposal reviewer (2003, 2004, 2005, 2006)
 - Recruited faculty and graduate students to attend and present at NC-ASTE and ASTE meetings.
- 5 Years membership NC-ASTE
 - Active Participant in Business Meetings
 - Collaborated in “Book sharing” at NC-ASTE, which is now an official event at ASTE meetings.
- 3 years membership SE-ASTE
 - Reviewer for faculty position paper (2005)
 - Active Participant in Business Meetings
 - Recruited faculty and graduate students to attend and present at ASTE and ASE-ASTE meetings
- GSU University Senate Representative (2007-2009)
- President of Iowa Association for Elementary Educators (1999)

Allan Feldman

Biography (Member, Election Committee)

I am a professor of science teacher education at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. I began at UMass as an assistant professor in 1993. Before I received my doctorate at Stanford University I was a middle and high school science teacher in public and private schools in New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. At UMass I direct the secondary science teacher education program and coordinate a STEM network that includes all the school districts and most of the colleges in a three county region. My research focuses on teacher learning and action research. During my time at UMass I have generated more than \$11 million in grant revenue.

Position Statement (Member, Election Committee)

These are interesting times for science teacher education. Growth in population, the aging of teachers, changes in demographics, and the emergence of new industries have led policy makers to call for the preparation of more and better science teachers, and for them to be produced as quickly as possible. However, much of the policy is being developed and enacted with little input from ASTE or its members. I believe that it is important for the Association to have an influence on policy. This can best be accomplished by improving the quality of our research and by disseminating it as widely as possible. As a member of the Election Committee, I would help find the best candidates for ASTE so that the Association can make this happen.

I would bring to the position my 14 years of experience as a professor of science teacher education at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, and my 17 years of experience as a secondary school science teacher. At UMass I direct the science teacher education program and coordinate a regional STEM network. My research focuses on teacher learning and action research, and I have been PI and co-PI of grants from NSF and other funding agencies. I have been involved with ASTE at the regional level for the past 10 years. During the past two years I was a principal member of a team that hosted the NE regional meeting. I have extensive committee experience, including as chair, for professional and research organizations.

Additional Announcements

Announcement for ASTE Newsletter ASTE Award Committee

1. The ASTE Awards Committee reports the following recipients for the ASTE Awards for 2006.

Award I: Outstanding Science Teacher Educator Award

Level 1: 10 years or less in career service

Awardee: John Tillotson, Syracuse University

Nominated by: James Shymansky, University of Missouri—St. Louis

Level 1: 10 years+ in career service

Awardee: Penny J. Gilmer, Florida State University

Nominated by: Kenneth Tobin, The Graduate Center of the City University of New York

Award II: Outstanding Mentor Award

Awardee: Thomas Koballa, University of Georgia

Nominated by: Leslie Upson, Appalachian State University

2. The ASTE Awards Committee reports the following recipients for the ASTE Awards for 2007.

Award I: Outstanding Science Teacher Educator Award

Level 1: 10 years or less in career service

Awardee: G. Nathan Carnes, University of South Carolina

Nominated by: Kenneth Tobin, The Graduate Center of the City University of New York

Level 2: 10 years+ in service

Awardee: James Shymansky, University of Missouri—St. Louis

Nominated by: Len Annetta, North Carolina State University

Award II: Outstanding Mentor Award

Awardee: Kenneth Tobin, The Graduate Center of the City University of New York

Nominated by: Katherine Scantlebury, University of Delaware

Award IV: Innovation in Teaching Science Teachers Award

William J. Straits, California State University Long Beach

Sharon Nichols, The University of Alabama

Award V: Implications of Research for Educational Practice Award

M. Jenice Goldston, The University of Alabama

Sharon Nichols, The University of Alabama

.Sincerely,
Penny J. Gilmer

Additional Announcements

Looking for Exemplary Science Programs (ESP) that Illustrate Inquiry

As the 2008 year approaches, the NSTA National Advisory Board (NAB) invites your help in identifying 15 programs for the 2008 Exemplary Science Program Monograph. The sixth monograph in the series now requests nominations for recognizing teachers and schools. Inquiry has become a word that all respect and admire – almost religiously. Most teachers, textbook authors, curriculum developers, and the general public see it important and purport to use it. However, in actual practice it often has a word like guided, completed, or even “directed” used with it as an adjective. But could scientists be so restrained??

The 2008 ESP monograph will focus on teachers and programs which illustrate full (or open) inquiry. This means that it starts with student curiosities and questions followed by student attempts to deal with their own curriculum and attempt to provide answers. Of course the main ingredient for scientific inquiry is collecting evidence from others to evaluate and to establish validity to the ideas and solutions proposed. And, these must be shared and used to resolve the issues. All of this requires contexts (situations) to promote inquiry – which is the stated major goal for science education as indicated in the National Science Education Standards. Specifically the goal called for producing students who “experience the richness and excitement of knowing about and understanding the natural world”.

The NAB looks forward to reviewing nominations and working with at least 15 teacher teams who are involved with real inquiry on the part of students in their classrooms. Nominations should be forwarded to Robert E. Yager, Chair of NSTA’s ESP efforts and editor of the ESP Monograph Series (Science Education Center, Room 450 VAN, The University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa 52242, robert-yager@uiowa.edu, 319-335-1189).

Cultural Studies of Science Education

Announcement

The Editors of Cultural Studies of Science Education (CSSE) are pleased to announce some exciting changes in the leadership, format, and direction of the BLOG associated with the journal. Sonya Martin is the new BLOG Editor, taking over from Steve Ritchie, who has seen this feature since its beginning. Springer recently has agreed to make available one article and an associated forum per issue to be discussed in the online BLOG. The Editors’ intent now is to provide a forum that assists a larger community of scholars to engage in ongoing discussions of key issues in the field beyond individual institutions (universities, colleges). The following text briefly articulates the goals of the journal, its Forum, and its BLOG feature. Faculty colleagues, graduate students, and science teachers are invited to contribute to this exciting venture and extend our community of practice into the Web.

What is Cultural Studies of Science Education?

Cultural Studies of Science Education is a relatively new journal that has as its editorial objective to publish articles that are cutting edge in terms of theory, method and the issues addressed in the research. Each published article emphasizes one or more of the following perspectives: empirical, topical/polemical and theoretical. Once an article is accepted for publication the editors select the participants in a Forum, which is a companion publication that begins with an articulation of key issues in the article and then ratchets up the scholarly discussion by exploring the issues, theories and methods employed in the paper in a deep way. Hence, for each paper published in CSSE there is a companion Forum that begins and expands a scholarly conversation. The Editors see this as an important way to initiate, continue and expand the quality of the dialogues in science education.

What is the BLOG?

Continued on the next page

Springer Announcement continued from previous page

The BLOG is an extension of what we have initiated in CSSE with the paper and associated Forum. Participants in the BLOG contribute to the conversation, which, as it is a conversation among scholars, is conducted in a way appropriate for a community of scholars. The BLOG constitutes a continuation of the Forum, taking the discussion that has begun in the body of the text into the Internet.

How is the BLOG article selected?

For each quarterly issue, the Editors will choose one article and its companion Forum to be highlighted for conversation within the BLOG. Authors of chosen articles will receive notification that their publication was selected as the Feature Focus for the BLOG. These Feature Focus articles are available as free downloads from <http://blogs.springer.com/csse>. Readers will be able to access the Feature Focus articles from a menu under the heading Free Article.

What are the BLOG guidelines for contributions?

All publications in the BLOG are expected to add substantively to the cultural studies of science education through a process of argumentation, as this term is understood within the academy. The Editors expect rationale for positions taken and for sociocultural theory to be employed in ways that catalyze thought and higher levels of scholarship within our field. There is no regulation regarding length of submission, however all submissions should provide references for works cited and should adhere to APA formatting.

The Review Process

Each text submitted is reviewed by a member of CSSE's editorial review board, and after a peer review process, decides whether to accept the submission for publication. Once accepted, the author of the submission is informed and the text is published on the BLOG. The authors of the highlighted articles are also informed that a BLOG submission has been posted and are encouraged to read and, should they choose, to respond to the new publications. Hence, the CSSE BLOG is the field where science educators collectively engage in and produce the most recent and cutting edge thinking in the cultural studies of science education.

The expected turnaround time on decisions normally is short—on the order of days rather than weeks. Because this process is peer-reviewed, accepted BLOG submissions should be viewed as publications to be included on a scholar's curriculum vitae as evidence of their contribution to the field.

Who should contribute to the BLOG and why?

The BLOG is open to anyone who has read the article and forum and wants to contribute to an ongoing conversation. It is common for BLOG entries to be posted by graduate and undergraduate students, and scholars along the career continuum. Practitioners of various persuasions (e.g., teachers, administrators, policy makers) can be involved, whether or not they consider themselves to be researchers. Divergent points of view are encouraged and the Editors use a metaphor of a conversation in thinking about the BLOG.

How can I get started?

Just go to CSSE's BLOG site and register. Once we get up to our maximum of four articles there will be four active BLOGs with new ones being added at a rate of one per issue and old ones being archived.

How can I cite my BLOG entry?

Here is an example of how to cite one of the Blogs presently at our site. A vita entry would be similar.

Koczevska, D. (2007, January 21). Keith's story. CSSE BLOG. Retrieved August 18,



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ASTE Newsletter

Published four times a year by the Association for Science Teacher Education. All members are invited to submit items.

<u>Issue</u>	<u>Items due by</u>
Fall	Oct. 15
Winter	Feb. 15
Spring	May 15
Summer	Aug. 15

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Remember to vote for your 2008 ASTE Officers.

"The 2008 ASTE election process will be completely electronic. To cast your vote, go to <http://TheASTE.org>. You will need your ASTE PIN and last name to log in. If necessary, you may obtain your PIN through the ASTE website. Email Eugene Wagner at ExecutiveSecretary@TheASTE.org with any questions or if you wish to have hard copy of the ballot.

The deadline for voting is November 15th."

**Save the Date: January 10-13, 2008
ASTE Conference in St. Louis
Register Online Starting November 1, 2007.
For more information, watch for the November Newsletter!**