President’s Newsletter Message
Randy L. Bell, ASTE President

Credence to our Clearwater Revival

It’s hard to believe, but in a little more than a month we’ll be returning to Clearwater, Florida, enjoying all that the 2012 ASTE Annual meeting has to offer (not to mention the beach and sunny weather!). If you have yet to register for the meeting, be aware that the discounted ASTE pre-conference registration rate ends December 18th. On-site registration will also be available. Not only does registering early save you money, but it helps your conference chairs in their efforts to make final plans and accommodate all attendees. So please register now! (click here for the registration form).

Speaking of the conference chairs, Dana Zeidler, Ben Herman, Allan Feldman, and Malcolm Butler have worked tirelessly for what is going to be a fantastic conference. (They’ve also created a really cool commemorative T-shirt that you can purchase online – click here for details). To give you a taste of what’s in store, I’ll highlight just a few of the conference features and scheduled events.

The conference hotel is the Hilton Clearwater Beach Resort. The hotel is aptly named, as it is situated right on the pristine beach of the west coast of Florida. The average high temperature for the month of January is 70°F – so be sure to bring your swimwear!
We will follow a similar format to past conferences, starting with four preconference workshops on Wednesday (including an all-day field trip to Myakka River State Park). Thursday’s activities will begin with a fun run/walk (click here for information) and end with a Happy Hour Reception that evening. Friday will feature committee meetings in the morning and region meetings in the late afternoon. The conference will end with the business meeting/awards luncheon Saturday afternoon.

We are fortunate to have two excellent keynote speakers who will address the conference theme, Promoting democratic decision-making and discourse through science teacher education. Dr. Norman G. Lederman will deliver the Thursday morning keynote, which will clarify key issues surrounding current debates about the nature of science and suggest productive directions for research and scholarship related to students' development of scientific literacy. Dr. Stephen Macko will speak on Friday morning about his work using stable isotopes to inform research and decision-making in such diverse fields as history, geography, consumer science, and even the origins of life. No doubt these two speakers will broaden our understandings of how science and science education can work together to improve discourse and decision-making for all students.

For those of you attending your first ASTE meeting, we have a Mentoring Program that matches new attendees with mentors who will be able to answer questions and assist you in finding your place at the conference and in the organization. If you are interested in participating in the mentor program (either as a mentor or mentee), please check the appropriate box on the registration form and/or contact Michael Clough at mclough@iastate.edu.

Friday is a big day for special sessions that you will want to consider attending. At 8:15 a.m. you’ll have the opportunity to participate in a discussion of the National Research Council’s recently released Framework for K-12 Science Education: Practices, Crosscutting Concepts and Core Ideas. Participants will join Heidi Schweingruber and Tom Keller, both of the NRC, to explore the framework and discuss their integration into pre-service programs. At 9:30 a.m. Friday morning there will be a session to meet the ASTE Board. This is your chance to learn more about the ASTE Board and pose questions for Board members. You’ll have a second opportunity to interact with ASTE Board members during the Town Hall meeting, scheduled for 2:00 p.m.

The ASTE Regional Units will meet on Friday at 4:00 p.m. Don’t miss the opportunity to learn more about our ASTE Regions and participate in their efforts to support science teachers. And you’d be wise not to forget the Women In Science Education Friday Night Dinner. This year’s WISE reception/dinner will be on Friday evening from 5:30—7:00 p.m. at Heilman's Beachcomber, which is just across the street from the hotel.

No doubt you’ll agree that this is going to be an engaging and informative conference. Be sure to thank the members of the ASTE Board and 2011 Program Committee for their efforts to make this a memorable conference experience. To learn more about the conference, including session details, hotel accommodations, and registration instructions, direct your web browser to: http://theaste.org/meetings/2012conference/index.htm.

See you in Clearwater!
In Memory of Dr. Hedy Moscovici

We are sad to announce that Dr. Hedy Moscovici, Professor Emerita of Science Education at California State University-Dominguez Hills, died in November 2011.

Hedy was born and raised in Bucharest, Romania, and moved to Israel for her undergraduate studies and master’s degree in microbiology. She received her doctorate in science education at Florida State University in 1994. Hedy served on the ASTE Board of Directors, chairing the Ethics Committee for three years. She also was very involved in ASTE’s Women in Science Education (WISE) group in which she was a leader. Florida State University College of Education honored Hedy with the 2010 Distinguished Educator Alumna Award, and she returned to the university to receive the award during Homecoming festivities. She also was elected as a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS).

Hedy was a tireless advocate for science education at all levels, from elementary through postsecondary. Her unique worldview was included by her experiences in socialist Romania, Jewish Israel, and multicultural US educational settings. Her legacy as a science and mathematics educator, academic, friend, and mother lives through the stories we tell about her and her contributions to education, both published and informal.

We will miss Hedy’s energy, honesty, and enthusiasm for life and education.
Call for Applications: Editorial Review Board for JSTE

Dear ASTE Members:

Our purpose herein is to issue a call to members of the Association of Science Teacher Educators (ASTE) who would like to serve on the Editorial Review Board for the Journal of Science Teacher Education (JSTE). We are seeking both U.S. and international applicants.

Qualifications:

a. Competence in research and/or methodology within some aspect of science teacher education.

b. Ability to judge the quality of a manuscript within an area of science teacher expertise.

c. Ability to identify particular strengths and weaknesses of a manuscript and, in a professional manner, to offer suggestions for revising manuscripts.

d. Current membership in ASTE.

Editorial Review Board members will serve a 5-year term (years will be calendar years). Term expiration occurs on December 31st of their fifth year.

Duties And Responsibilities of Editorial Review Members:

a. Read and evaluate manuscripts within his or her area of expertise.

b. Provide written reports on manuscripts reviewed using the criteria and evaluation form provided by the Editor(s).

c. Review manuscripts within six weeks of receipt.

To apply, please submit by December 23, 2011:

a. A letter of interest that includes a list of at least four areas of expertise in science teacher education in which you would be comfortable reviewing manuscripts.

b. A two-page vita that emphasizes publications in refereed journals and includes any previous reviewing or editing experience.

We encourage you to apply electronically by emailing John Staver at jstaver@purdue.edu.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us by e-mail at jstaver@purdue.edu or by telephone at 765-494-2781.

Sincerely,

John R. Staver

Lynn A. Bryan
Call for Reviewers

Elementary Science Education (ESE) dedicated issues within the Journal of Science Teacher Education

Elementary Science Education (ESE) is seeking qualified reviewers in elementary science education and related fields. The purpose of ESE is to communicate ideas, theories, research, and field-oriented information related to supervision, curriculum, and instruction. The audience of ESE includes universities with teacher education programs, elementary schools, and state and local education agencies.

The ESE Editorial Board Reviewers must be members in good standing of ASTE. These individuals should have experience publishing in and reviewing manuscripts for professional refereed journals. Editorial Review Board members will serve a 5-year term (years will be calendar years). Term expiration occurs on December 31st of their fifth year.

Duties And Responsibilities of Editorial Review Members:

a. Read and evaluate manuscripts within his or her area of expertise.

b. Provide written reports on manuscripts reviewed using the criteria and evaluation form provided by the Editor(s).

c. Review manuscripts within six weeks of receipt.

We encourage applications from researchers outside the U.S.

As we review applications, we will consider several factors:

a. Record of publication and past service as a reviewer for science education journals.

b. Expertise in research methods, grade level and science discipline of those retiring from the Board.

c. Alignment of the interests, expertise and demographics of the Editorial Board with the readership of ESE.

If interested, please send a letter of interest and 2-page vita to:

Eun Lee, Managing Editor of ESE

jese@missouri.edu

A workshop for current and potential reviewers will be held at the upcoming ASTE conference regarding the review process and inviting high quality reviewers.

Deborah Hanuscin, Editor of ESE

hanuscind@missouri.edu
ASTE Newsletter Editors Named

Dear ASTE Colleagues:

The ASTE Publications Committee is pleased to announce that Ronald Hermann and Rommel Miranda of Towson University have been appointed by the Board of Directors as co-editors of the ASTE Newsletter.

Ron and Rommel will be begin working with Todd Campbell, our current Editor, during the upcoming year, and they will assume full editorship responsibilities on January 1, 2013.

We owe recognition to the search committee for their hard work and service to ASTE:

Alec Bodzin
Lynn Bryan
Gayle Buck
Todd Campbell
Deborah Hanuscin
Rebecca Schneider
John Staver

Please join me in congratulating Ron and Rommel and in thanking our search committee members!

Kathy Cabe Trundle
Search Committee Chair
ASTE Publications Committee Chair

Ronald Hermann
Rommel Miranda
Online Distance Learning Graduate Certificate  
Informal Science Institutions  
Environmental Education Graduate Certificate Program

Do you want to
- Increase your career opportunities in informal science education and science outreach
- Create a career ladder
- Understand how individuals and communities learn science
- Address learning styles for multiple audiences
- Enhance relationships between ISIs/ISEIs and K-16 schools
- Understand the science education reform movement and standards in depth
- Build an ISI/ISEI community professional network
- Professionalize informal science education

This Informal Science Education Program is for you!

The program is for
- Professionals who educate the public about science
- Science teachers who want to go beyond traditional coursework and delve into the field of informal science

Courses can be used toward Ph.D., M.A. and M.Ed. degrees

Register now to become a part of the cohort beginning January 2012. Spaces are limited. Visit [http://www.gradcerts.usf.edu/certificates/xev.html](http://www.gradcerts.usf.edu/certificates/xev.html)

For more information about this groundbreaking program, contact the program director Barbara Spector, Ph.D. at spec2r2@usf.edu or 813.971.1856 or program alumnus Jeremy Lake at lakeef@gmail.com or 813.494.7619.
Educating teens about the impact of good nutrition on their health and then motivating them to make good food choices is an important but difficult task! Teachers can play an important role in this health education. However, it is important for teachers to have the resources and tools that not only allow them to present sound nutrition information but which also encourages their students to be interested in the foods they are eating and how their eating habits impact how they feel.

The Sports, Cardiovascular, and Wellness Nutrition (SCAN) Dietetic Practice Group of the American Dietetic Association is pleased to support secondary level educators in their efforts to educate teens about nutrition by offering a FREE resource *Teens Eat Right*.

*Teens Eat Right* is an up-to-date and engaging resource available for immediate download. This resource includes a slide presentation, well-developed handouts and an evaluation tool; additionally, teachers can get support from dietitians who can be contacted during National Nutrition Month (March) via Skype. The dietitians will clarify materials to the teachers or can be directly linked with classrooms to answer questions from students who are interested in learning more about food.

For nutritional education, it is important that evidence-based research is the basis of the recommendations. The American Dietetic Association is the nationally recognized provider of evidence-based nutrition recommendations in the field of nutrition and dietetics. Teachers can thus be confident that the information being presented to the teens is verifiable and timely.

The *Teens Eat Right* material includes:

- *Teens Eat Right* slides with notes
- Seven *Teens Eat Right* student handouts
- *Teens Eat Right* post-presentation quiz

The *Teens Eat Right* material can be downloaded free from our website [www.scandpg.org](http://www.scandpg.org) at [www.scandpg.org/store/products/10129/](http://www.scandpg.org/store/products/10129/). This website is a trusted and reliable source of nutrition information for health professionals, teachers, and consumers. For further questions regarding these educational materials, and if you would like to sign up for SKYPE A DIETITIAN, contact: Susan Rodder, MS, RD, LD at (214) 648-1528 or [Susan.Rodder@utsouthwestern.edu](mailto:Susan.Rodder@utsouthwestern.edu).
We are excited to have The Association for Science Teacher Education (ASTE) return to the west coast beaches of Florida! The ASTE 2012 International Conference theme, *Promoting Democratic Decision-making and Discourse through Science Teacher Education*, aims to highlight the fundamental importance that community, discourse, dissent and tolerance have for the activity of science and science teacher education. The program committee has encouraged the submission of proposals that highlight our commitment to empowering teachers and their students by exercising evidence-based reasoning and becoming engaging in the democratic process though policy, activism and scientific inquiry. In doing so, we hope to extend our international community boundaries as a professional society.

We will continue the successful tradition of the Minneapolis conference by having *syllabus sharing* as a presentation option to our robust program of papers, posters, round-table discussions, experiential sessions and themed paper sets. All of these presentation formats are designed to engage conference attendees in discussions of high quality evidence-based practices.

Sunny and warm regards,
Dana Zeidler, Allan Feldman, Ben Herman, Malcolm Butler
University of South Florida
2012 ASTE Program Committee/Co-conference Chairs
**ASTE International Conference Announcements**

**Faculty Institute for NASA Earth and Space Science Education**

We are now accepting applicants for the Faculty Institute for NASA Earth and Space Science Education (FINESSE), offered as a pre-conference workshop at ASTE in Clearwater Beach, FL. This will be the final in a series of free two-day workshops delivered to assist university and community college science and education faculty in preparing future teachers in science.

NASA Earth and space scientists and educators share authentic inquiry activities, data, and resources related to key topics from the newly released Common Core Science Education Frameworks (formerly known as the National Science Education Standards). Participants receive a $300 stipend and lunch, and develop implementation plans.

To apply or for more information, please go to [http://www.lpi.usra.edu/education/facultyInstitutes/](http://www.lpi.usra.edu/education/facultyInstitutes/).

For questions or further information, please contact Christine Shupla at shupla@lpi.usra.edu.

**ASTE Technology Forum**

Do you integrate technology into your science methods course as a model for preservice teacher to learn from? Do you believe technology has value in modern day teaching and learning? Or perhaps you feel that it is merely a fad that will soon pass? Either way, ASTE has developed a Technology Forum that will be a place to debate these issues, network with leaders in the field of technology infusion and integration, and develop relationships with fellow ASTE members that may lead to collaborative projects. As an added bonus, part of the purview of the Technology Forum is to oversee the National Technology Leadership Initiative (NTLI) Award, which selects a best paper from this area at the ASTE conference, and provides funds to present that paper at Society for Information Technology in Teacher Education (SITE) in March. Really? How could you turn this down? If you are interested in becoming part of the Technology Forum, learning from cutting edge work involving technology integration into science teacher education, and being part of the review committee for the NTLI award, please contact either Joanne Olson at jkolson@iastate.edu, or Richard Hechter at hechter@cc.umanitoba.ca.

We look forward to seeing you participate in the Technology Forum in January in Clearwater at ASTE 2012!
ASTE International Conference Announcements Cont.

Pre-ASTE International Conference Field Trip

Myakka River State Park Field Trip: Incorporating Environmental Field Trip Pedagogy into Science Teacher Professional Development

The ASTE Environmental Education Forum is sponsoring a pre-conference field trip workshop on Wednesday, January 4 from 7:45am – 5pm at our 2012 ASTE conference. 

Abstract: Learn to plan and implement environmental field trips at Myakka River State Park. Workshop includes airboat and tram tours, canopy walk, and transportation. This is an all day trip. Conference guests including children may attend.

Cost: $52.00

Transportation and snacks will be provided.

Myakka River State Park is located 73 miles south of Clearwater Beach. Field trip highlights include:

- Airboat tour into shallow grassy freshwater lake habitat.
- Myakka Wildlife Tram tour through shady hammocks, majestic pine flatwoods, fertile marshes and sunny prairies.
- Canopy walkway high above the treeline.
- Road stop to view manatees at the Manatee Viewing Center.

Check out some field trip photos at: [http://www.lehigh.edu/~amb4/myakka/](http://www.lehigh.edu/~amb4/myakka/)

Workshop discussions will focus on field trip planning issues including curriculum integration, pre-site visits, important planning topics including safety, liability, clothing and food provisions.

Lunch is not included in participants’ workshop fee. Myakka Lake has a concession outpost with a variety of food choice offerings such as 'gator stew and alligator jerky, along with more common fare like drinks, burgers, hot dogs, ice cream and snacks. Participants may also bring their own lunch. A Publix Supermarket is only a 10-minute walk from the conference hotel.

Please feel free to contact Al Bodzin at amb4@lehigh.edu for additional information.
Dear ASTE member,

We, as members of the ASTE Policy and Government Relations Forum, are inviting your voluntary participation in the ASTE Policy and Government Relations Forum Survey, (online survey at http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ASTEpolicyforumsurvey), that concerns a variety of issues pertinent to the education reform movement in the United States. This is one part of the mission of ASTE to "advance practice and policy through scholarship, collaboration, and innovation in science teacher education..."

We, as members of the Forum, ask you to participate in this online survey to determine consensus views of the ASTE membership. This survey is open only to ASTE members. Your responses will be anonymous. Deadline to complete: Friday Dec 23, 2011

We will use the results of the ASTE Policy and Government Relations Forum Survey to:

1. Provide the ASTE membership with a summary of the responses received at the 2012 annual meeting on Friday January 6 at the 8:15 session "2011 ASTE Policy and Government Relations Forum Survey: A Representative Voice on National Science Education Policies?".
2. Inform decisions and recommendations by the ASTE Policy and Government Relations Forum.
3. Inform our ASTE representatives and leaders in their contributions to the national conversation on education reform.
4. Inform ASTE members and others through publication in the ASTE newsletter, reports and other publications.
5. Serve as a springboard for engaging members in a more substantive conversation on the issues about which the majority of members feel strongly.

Please provide us with your views in these critical areas of education reform by completing the survey at http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ASTEpolicyforumsurvey.

If you have any questions concerning the research study, please contact Colleen Megowan at (480) 213-5687 or megowan@asu.edu.

If you have any questions about your rights as a subject/participant in this research, or if you feel you have been placed at risk, you can contact the Chair of the Human Subjects Institutional Review Board, through the ASU Office of Research Integrity and Assurance, at (480) 965-6788.

Thank you,

Members of the ASTE Policy and Government Relations Forum
ASTE International Conference Announcements Cont.

As you are in the thick of this academic year and start thinking ahead to ASTE, remember there’s a great way to start off the conference. Yes, it’s the Science Teacher Shuffle! We’ll again be meeting in the conference hotel lobby on Thursday at 6:45 AM to kick off the conference on the “right foot!”

Join us for a 3 mile fun run or a 2 mile walk. There’s a lovely bike path just blocks from the resort, and I can’t think of a better way to start the day than with a little exercise in a non-threatening atmosphere, with terrific company!

The race is free! So all you need do is complete the application and email, fax or snail mail it to me! The application with numbers/addresses can be downloaded from theaste.org
Hope you will join us!

Tisha Morrell
morrell@up.edu

ASTE Newsletter

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

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Earth and Marine Science Seminars in Hawaii

Three seminar programs designed for educators are available;

1) Geoscience on the Big Island of Hawaii – July 8-14 & Aug. 5-11;

For brochures contact – Chuck Blay at 808-742-8305; teok@aloha.net; website –