President’s Message
Contributed by Valarie Akerson

ASTE Helps to Influence Policy

As part of our work over the summer, President-Elect Gil Naizer and I were invited to attend the NSSME+ Dissemination Meeting to read, review, and share insights regarding outcomes from the Report of the 2018 NSSME+ that was released in December 2018. At this meeting that took place in June, representatives from about 25 leading national organizations on science, mathematics, and computer science education were in attendance, and we grappled with questions related to teacher preparation, opportunities to lead, explored support system/contextual factors, and developed action plans. This meeting was quite productive and informative and included ASTE voices in science.
teacher education. The report is available at the Horizon Research [website](#) where you can find large data sets that include Teacher Background and Beliefs, Professional Development, Courses, Instruction, Instructional Resources, and Factors Affecting Instruction.

One of the best parts of the meeting was networking with representatives of other national organizations, as well as exploring the resource. Horizon is happy for the NSSME+ report to be used by teacher educators and researchers to inform their instruction and their research—it is a great resource for ASTE members, and is freely available! It could be useful as you are wrapping up plans for your fall semester teaching or research, or even those great presentations we imagine you will be preparing for January! Happy fall semester.

Valarie Akerson, ASTE President
Executive Director’s Report

Contributed by Bob Hollon

Each year, the ASTE Executive Director reports the financial and membership status of the organization to our members and the public. I submitted my first report in 2012, so this 2019 report is my 8th effort to update everyone. It will be my last report, as my term as Executive Director ends in January 2020 when Kate Popejoy will take on the duties of the Executive Director position. I know Kate will do a fantastic job representing us so please welcome her and work with her to move ASTE forward.

The ASTE International conference is January 9-11, 2020 at the San Antonio, TX Hyatt Regency Riverwalk. The weather will be warm and sunny! We should have a great program of sessions, PD workshops, and social events so plan on attending. Registration and hotel reservations will be available around October 1, 2019. Most ASTE Regions hold meetings in the fall, so plan on attending those gatherings as they are wonderful places to connect with colleagues.

Be a Good ASTE citizen and VOTE! Get Involved with Committees and Activities

Now is also the time to consider serving in a leadership role within ASTE by volunteering for a committee, helping with the annual conference, or working to introduce colleagues to the organization. You can find the current ASTE Leadership listing here.

Membership

ASTE membership has increased from about 660 people to over 700 during the past five years. As of August 15, 2019, we have 660 members. We may still get a few members later this year, but it looks like 2019 will not meet our membership and budget target of 700 active members.

ASTE reorganized membership categories in 2019 to include Member, Student Member and Retired Member. While our region structure still strives to highlight the increasingly diverse organization membership, most publishers and other agencies no longer differentiate fees and do not ask for separate lists based on geography.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Membership Type</th>
<th>2018 Total</th>
<th>August 2019 Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Member ($125)</td>
<td>553</td>
<td>503</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Member ($85)</td>
<td>149</td>
<td>140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retired Member ($60)</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>723</td>
<td>660</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ASTE members receive many benefits via their full memberships. A detailed list can be found here. All membership categories include full access to the Journal of Science Teacher Education, Innovations in Science Teacher Education, the ASTE Newsletter, access to all online resources, discounts on ASTE publications, and reduced rates for the annual conference.
Please remember that ASTE membership operates on a calendar year. Thus, you must be a 2019 member to vote in the upcoming fall elections. You must have a 2020 membership (available starting in October) to receive discounted rates for the 2020 annual conference.

**Donations to ASTE**

In response to members’ requests to support the organization beyond their membership fees, we set up a donations account in 2017 to track contributions and ensure that donor’s requests are honored. The fund increased in value again this year to $4338 and stays focused on strengthening support for our graduate student members. Contributions may be public or anonymous, and directed to specific activities – all at the discretion of the donor. If you would like to set up a monthly contribution rather than a lump sum donation, we can set up an automatic transfer from your bank account or PayPal account to the ASTE donation account.

**ASTE Finances**

Current and future ASTE operating budgets now require about $65,000 per year to meet our contractual commitments for administrative positions, editors, and miscellaneous expenses such as web services, programming, and financial reporting. In addition, our contractual obligations to conference hotels range from $80,000-$100,000 in any single year.

Our assets as of May 2019 included $39,276 in the checking account, $4338 in the Legacy Account, $153,974 in the PayPal account and $53,160 in the Money Market account. The Board approved moving $200,000 into a CD account to improve interest returns. The CD was opened in January 2019 and will return 2.3% interest. We continue to meet our goal of keeping at least three years operating expenses in reserve.

**Looking Ahead**

2020 membership and conference registration for San Antonio, TX will open around October 5. Details will be available on the ASTE web site. The conference team is working hard to build an outstanding program with a full range of activities and field trips. **You must be a 2020 member to receive the discounted rates.** Conference rates for 2020 ASTE members will not increase this year. Early bird discounted rates are $250 for regular members and $120 for students. It is a significant reduction from the onsite rates of $325/regular and $185/student and non-member rates of $460. Please note that due to the high costs for food and beverage in the hotel, the conference will **NOT** include breakfast this year. There is a $10 charge for printed programs.
Reasons to attend ASTE 2020 International Conference
Contributed by Gil Naizer and Janice Meyer

5. **The Riverwalk** – The Riverwalk is 13 miles of restaurants, bars, and shopping along the San Antonio River. The conference hotel is conveniently situated on the Riverwalk where you will be able to network with colleagues and enjoy San Antonio’s nightlife.

4. **Tex-Mex** – Other states have Mexican food Texas has Tex-Mex. There are numerous Tex-Mex restaurants in downtown San Antonio to try, from street vendors to high end. There is a saying, “Once you’ve had Tex-Mex, you’ll never go back!”

3. **The Weather** – Get away from the dreary cold and snow. Come to Texas where the average high is in the mid-60s and the lows are in the 40s.

2. **The Alamo** – For you history buffs in the group, the historic Alamo is located just a couple of blocks from the hotel.

1. **The Friendly State** – Texas (or Tejas in Spanish) is the Caddo Indian word for “friend.” Use your time at the conference to connect with new and old friends to collaborate on projects and learn from each other.

We could add many more reasons to the list. Find out for yourself why the ASTE 2020 International Conference in San Antonio will be out of this world! Come down to San Antonio and enjoy some Texas hospitality!

2020 ASTE Conference Planning Committee
Gil Naizer and Janice Meyer
Happy Spring! We are pleased to announce that Volume 4, Issue 3 of the *Innovations in Science Teacher Education* journal is now available at:

http://innovations.theaste.org/publication/volume-4/issue-3-19/

This issue features an article that describes an innovation to prepare teachers and teacher candidates to design instruction that promotes students’ disciplinary language development during rigorous and meaningful science instruction. This issue also contains an article that presents a lesson development, implementation, revision, and reflection cycle used to support preservice secondary science teachers in learning to teach English learners effectively. This issue further has an article which describes a sequence of lessons, readings, and resources aimed to prepare elementary preservice teachers for science instruction wherein student sensemaking, rather than vocabulary memorization, is prioritized.

We are also extremely thankful for our dedicated Editorial Review Board members who always provide insightful comments and suggestions to authors.

Please help us to spread the news about the *Innovations* journal by sharing the URL (http://innovations.theaste.org/) with your colleagues who may not be ASTE members!

Please join our Facebook Group at https://www.facebook.com/ISTEjournal/ so you can receive announcements regarding the *Innovations* journal.

If you have any questions regarding the *Innovations* journal, please contact the editors: Rommel Miranda (Rmiranda@towson.edu) or Ron Hermann (Rhermann@towson.edu).
ASTE Graduate Student Forum Updates
Contributed by Shana Lee, Leiflyn Gamborg, and Melanie Kinskey

Three Minute Thesis® Competition

The ASTE Graduate Student Forum is excited to announce the third annual ASTE Three Minute Thesis® competition to take place at the 2020 International Conference in San Antonio! 3MT® competitors must effectively explain their dissertation research in only three minutes using a single static slide. This is a great opportunity to learn about the wide range of research being conducted by ASTE graduate student members; we are seeking both competitors and judges for this event.

Competitors: Ph.D. and Ed.D. candidates who will be defending their dissertations between January 1, 2020, and January 30, 2021, are eligible to participate in the 2020 ASTE 3MT® competition. Click here for more information about competing and to sign up.

Judges: ASTE members who have completed a terminal degree are eligible to serve as judges. Click here for more information about judging and to sign up or contact Shana Lee.

3MT® registration closes on October 15, 2019 so we can avoid scheduling conflicts with your other ASTE commitments. The competition will be limited to the first 10 submissions.

Graduate Student Recognition

Join us in celebrating ASTE graduate student member accomplishments.

Thank you to all mentors who took the time to guide these students in their professional paths and for recognizing their efforts. Congratulations to:

Selene Willis (University of South Florida) Selene passed her qualifying exam with flying colors!
Van V. Truong (Drexel University) Van celebrated a first time acceptance to present at a conference. She presented a poster entitled, "Bridging the gap between girls of color and STEM: A hermeneutic phenomenological study," at the 2019 SOCIO International Conferences in Education, Social Sciences, and Humanities (SOCIOINT) in Istanbul, Turkey in June 2019. She also presented at the 11th annual International Conference on Education and New Learning Technologies (EDULEARN19) in Palma De Mallorca, Spain in July 2019.

Jeanne Heuring (University of Toledo) Jeanna recently passed both written and oral comprehensive exams and is now a doctoral candidate in curriculum and instruction, gifted education. Additionally, she presented her first poster presentation at ASTE 2019 on research conducted with Dr. Charlene Czerniak & Dr. Susanna Hapgood on PreK-3rd grade teachers' science/engineering planning practices.

Anna E. Hutchinson (University of Cincinnati) Anna is a doctoral candidate in the College of Education with a focus on curriculum and instruction. She recently passed her oral exam and was a UC Graduate Student Expo winner in Social & Behavioral sciences. The Graduate School hosts an annual graduate student expo in which Anna won in her category. This was significant as this was her first year participating in the expo and her first win. Her poster was titled 'Chasing scientific literacy: An analysis of teacher conceptual development of the Nature of Science and Scientific Inquiry through participatory research.'
Amity Gann (Temple University) In June, Amity successfully defended her dissertation about development of noticing practices in preservice resident teachers.

Have you or a graduate student you mentor reached a significant milestone this year? We want to recognize the important work being done by ASTE’s graduate student members. Being accepted to present at a conference for the first time, passing preliminary exams, publishing, having a successful defense… we want to hear it all! Share these graduate student achievements for inclusion in future newsletters using this form or using the ASTE website.

Thank you for supporting ASTE graduate students!

Make sure to like the ASTE Graduate Student Forum Facebook Page and follow us on Twitter (@ASTE_GradForum).

Shana Lee - President, Graduate Student Forum (slee@bagley.msstate.edu)
Leiflyn Gamborg - President-Elect, Graduate Student Forum (lgambo1@lsu.edu)
Melanie Kinskey - Vice President, Graduate Student Forum (melaniekinskey@gmail.com)
Katie Green - Graduate Student Board Member (kegreen4@ncsu.edu)
ASTE Elections

Contributed by Erin Peters-Burton and Rita Hagevik

ASTE elections will run from October 1, 2019 through November 15, 2019. The slate of candidates is listed below. The ballot and candidate background information are available at http://theaste.org/resources/elections/. You must be a 2019 member and logged in to view the information and vote.

President (1)
Judith Lederman
Deborah Hanuscin

Board Member at Large (2)
Jerrid Kruse
Alan Oliveria
Eric Pyle
Judith Morrison

Elections Committee (3)
Amanda Glaze
Julie Contino
Joshua Ellis
Mike Borowczak
Ingrid Carter

Questions should be directed to Erin Peters-Burton at epeters1@gmu.edu or Rita Hagevik at rita.hagevik@uncp.edu.

Technical difficulties should go to John Rhea at des@theaste.org.

Regards,
The ASTE Elections Committee
**North-East – ASTE Meeting News**

Contributed by Regina Toolin

**Save the Date! October 10-11, 2019**

**Conference Theme**

*Reflecting on Diversity and Inclusion in the Recruitment and Retention of STEM Teachers*

Dr. Regina Toolin, Dr. Sheila Borges Rajguru, and Dr. Kristina Hopkins (NE-ASTE Conference Co-Chairs) are thrilled to announce the 2019 NE-ASTE Regional Conference at the University of Vermont, Burlington, VT.

Please check the NE-ASTE Conference Website ([http://neaste.org/faq/](http://neaste.org/faq/)) or email neaste4@gmail.com with any questions, comments, or concerns.
South-East – ASTE Meeting News
Contributed by Stacey Britton

Save the Date! October 4-5, 2019

Conference Theme

STEM Education: Promoting Inclusive Learning

Join other SASTE members at the Southest Regional Conference at the University of West Georgia in Carrollton, Georgia. Participants arriving before lunch on Friday will have an opportunity to engage in stream work with students at the local schools, followed by an evening social. Conference presentations will begin Saturday morning and will include a few new format options to allow for greater mentoring and dialogue between regional members.
South-West – ASTE Meeting News
Contributed by Stephen Burgin

On Friday, October 25 the annual SWASTE regional conference will kick off with an evening field trip to the Amazeum (a children’s science center) where we will have dinner and tour the exhibits. After this we will spend some time at Crystal Bridges (a museum of American art) on the same grounds as the Amazeum.

Saturday, October 26th is when the conference presentations will take place. We will be meeting on the University of Arkansas campus in the college of education buildings. Lunch will be provided. Additionally, Dr. Daniel Kennefick, a physics professor at the University, will be giving a keynote address where he will discuss his latest book entitled “No Shadow of a Doubt: The 1919 Eclipse that Confirmed Einstein’s Theory of Relativity.”

For more information contact Stephen Burgin srburgin@uark.edu.
STEP UP (Supporting Teachers to Encourage the Pursuit of Undergraduate Physics) – an NSF-funded project sponsored by APS and partner universities – is working to recruit thousands of high school physics teachers this summer and early fall so they can implement our research-backed curriculum that was designed (and has shown to be effective) to inspire high school girls to pursue physics as an undergraduate major and, eventually, career.

STEP UP provides two free, self-contained lessons that are backed by research and shown to increase interest in physics, especially among young women. Think of the great gains that physics will make when powered by the full might of the future generations! Register to join their community or download these lessons and other pedagogical tools by visiting our website at STEPUPphysics.org.
Newsletter Information

Published four times a year by the Association for Science Teacher Education.

Issue items due by:

Autumn Oct. 15
Winter Feb. 15
Spring May 15
Summer Aug. 15

All members are invited to submit items.

Editors: Ian Binns and Mark Bloom
Email: ian.binns@uncc.edu or markb@dbu.edu

Newsletter Sleuth Challenge: Use the clue below to locate the ‘easter egg’ to become a Newsletter Sleuth! Remember to click on it.

Clue: It might take an elite brain (or maybe ten) to solve this newsletter sleuth challenge!