

## Association for Science Teacher Education March 2023 Quarterly Board Check-In Minutes

Zoom

March 3, 2023

17:00 – 19:00 Eastern US Time

- Present:**
- Andrea Borowczak (President)
  - Rommel Miranda (Past President)
  - Bill McComas (President Elect)
  - Mark Bloom (Publications Committee Co-Chair)
  - Lisa Borgerding (Conference Planning Committee Chair)
  - Stephen Burgin (Awards Committee Chair)
  - Xavier Fazio (Membership & Participation Chair)
  - Amanda Gunning (Regional Committee Chair)
  - Rita Hagevik (Communications Committee Chair) Will be late
  - Corinne Lardy (Professional Development Chair) Will be late
  - Erin Peters-Burton (Equity Committee Chair)
  - Molly Staggs (Grad Student Member & Membership Co-Chair)
  - Kate Popejoy (Executive Director)
  - John Rhea (Director of Electronic Services)
- Absent:**
- Vanashri Nargund-Jossi (Publications Committee Chair)
  - Donna Governor (NSTA Liaison)

Andrea calls the meeting to order at 17:00. Process will be to go through each committee for latest information, and then ask for any new business. Andrea reminds all to invite her to committee meetings as she is ex officio member of all committees.

### **Awards** – Stephen Burgin

Committee is a bit behind. Paper awards deadline is March 21<sup>st</sup>. Next round will be the people awards.

### **Conference Planning**– Lisa Borgerding

Will continue to use the post conference survey to solicit nominees for the paper awards.

Work on 2024 conference in New Orleans is well under way. Plenary speaker has been chosen and field trip planning is ongoing. Call for proposals will go out April 1<sup>st</sup>. Firm deadline of July 10<sup>th</sup>, with NO extensions.

Information from the 2023 post-conference survey: attendees want more syllabus sharing. Continued frustration with the conference app. On that note, Lisa, Kate, John, and Kelly are planning to meet with Whova in late April or early May to explore their platform.

### **Equity**– Erin Peters-Burton

Committee wishes to continue equity practice webinars and to make a repository for equity-based practices.

MOTION: to change SOP language for equity committee to “at least nine members.” PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.

Grad student member of committee has graduates, so need a new member. Will work with Bill to fill the spot. Andrea reminds group of process of filling empty slots at “off times” of the year.

#### **Membership & Participation** – Xavier and Molly

Three new members on the committee, with Molly as the new co-chair. Changes in membership categories need to be added to SOPs. Kate will take care of that in next revision. Xavier wishes to work closely with the Communications and Publications committees to drive membership. Committee plans to repeat the Mentor-Mentee Nexus experience at 2024 conference.

Lisa takes this opportunity to share a special form is being created to fill out for special sessions at the conference. Each committee chair will need to use it for things like the mentor-mentee nexus and the meet the editors sessions.

Xavier reminds Board of the potential for an affiliation with NARST. Next step will be for Andrea to meet with her counterpart at NARST to discuss the possibility.

#### **NSTA Partnership** – Bill McComas

Nothing to report as he takes over this role on June 30<sup>th</sup> from Debi Hanuscin. The different dates make things confusing.

#### **Oversight**- Rommel Miranda

Nothing to report

#### **Professional Development** – Corinne Lardy (begun by Andrea)

Plan to do more webinars throughout the year. Will create a solicitation form. Will ask previous workshop presenters if they are interested. Plan to start with two per year.

Erin notes that the Equity committee wants to do webinars as well, so they will need to coordinate.

John notes that the “old” workshop proposal form could be adapted for the webinar proposal.

#### **Publications** – Mark Bloom

Challenging work period as the *JSTE* and *Innovations* editor contracts are both up at the same time.

No *JSTE* applications yet. One team had to say no as their university would not support them as *JSTE* is not yet indexed.

Some discussion about ASTE sponsored books and their potential to garner recognition for ASTE.

*Innovations* editors do not wish to continue, so call for new editors will be out soon.

Kate reminds that the publishing contract with Taylor & Francis is entering the three-year renegotiation stage later this year.

#### **Regions** – Amanda Gunning

Met with Graduate Student Forum as they want each region to have a graduate student representative. Some regions exploring becoming subsidiaries of ASTE for tax purposes.

**Director of Electronic Services search** – Rommel & Bill

Bill has drafted the job description. Presidential team and Kate will fine tune and then send to Board for feedback.

[Carolina Biological Supply MOU](#)

Andrea discusses the history and discussion behind this MOU. Vernier has agreed to support NTLI award only through 2024. Carolina has agreed to pick up that sponsorship, in addition to the other awards they already sponsor.

MOTION: Stephen moves that the letter be approved as written. Erin seconds.

Discussion: How does this fit with SOPs? Chapter 5 Project Support. The MOU does not state that ASTE supports their products, merely delineates how the two organizations will work toward common goals.

PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.

Andrea will sign the MOU and pass back to Carolina.

**Communications** – Rita Hagevik

Committee is responsible for many avenues for communication. Must be careful who is allowed to join the ASTE Facebook group. She may need more members for the committee.

Andrea asks all if anything else needs to be discussed. No.

Reminds of June Board meetings:

All times central Time Zone

June 6<sup>th</sup> all on Zoom Board 9:30 – 12:00 and 14:00 – 15:30

Executive Committee 15:45 – 16:30

June 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> Hybrid

In NOLA: Andrea, Rommel, Bill, Lisa, Kate (with Kelly joining Kate at end to walk the hotel)

Remainder on Zoom

June 12<sup>th</sup>

9:00 – 10:00 Hotel tour for F2F folks

Board meeting 10:00 – 12:30 and 13:30 – 16:00

Executive Committee 16:15 – 17:00

June 13<sup>th</sup>

Board Meeting 9:30 – 12:00 and 13:00 – 15:30

Executive Committee 15:45 – 16:30

Meeting adjourned at 18:56.

## Appendix One: Carolina MOU



February 20, 2023

Andrea Borowczak, Ed.D.—President  
Association for Science Teacher Education

Dr. Borowczak,

We share your enthusiasm for a partnership between the Association for Science Teacher Education (ASTE) and Carolina Biological Supply Company (Carolina). Our respective expertise, resources, and strengths in science education serve and support the needs of preservice and in-service science teachers at all grade levels—needs that, in the current environment, are at an all-time high.

Science education, too, has a lot happening and has experienced enhanced teacher turnover due to the recent pandemic. Since June 2018, the United States has experienced more than a 35% science teacher and leader turnover. Routine responsibilities, preparations, teaching and learning modalities, as well as science standards have changed during this time. These issues are opportunities for both ASTE and Carolina to provide assistance to a larger than normal group of science teachers and leaders who need more guidance, direction, and attention in science education.

Recently, federal funding has been provided for strategic science and STEM improvements, as detailed in a letter from US DoEd Deputy Secretary of Education, which can be found at the [Carolina Knowledge Center "Dream Big" web page](#). We believe joint communication from ASTE and Carolina to our respective audiences will extend our reach, provide direction, secure funding, and amplify a collective voice among key decision makers and administrators for science education and what we are doing to assist science teachers and leaders at all levels.

Carolina recognizes the extraordinary value and leadership that ASTE provides teachers in their preservice preparation, continuing education, and ongoing professional learning for advanced degrees through its members' institutions. The need for district leadership to assist in the preparation of highly qualified science teachers is higher than ever before as teachers seek quality teacher education, instructional materials, and guidance.

Carolina has been a long-term supporter of ASTE, and we want to build on that commitment. This is a natural partnership with the respected authority of both organizations in the eyes of educators. We believe "stronger together" applies.

Outlined in this [Letter of Understanding \(LOU\)](#) are the tenants of our relationship for both organizations that benefit teachers and students. It also serves as a basis for our working relationship, point-in-time:

***Stated Objectives for Carolina and ASTE's Relationship:***

- Advocate for science education, leveraging our respective strengths as organizations.
- Promote our shared mission to further support science teaching at all levels.
- Communicate jointly through all levels of school systems via our relationships with members, districts, states, and other institutions.
- Secure increased and responsible funding for science and STEM education.

***Carolina Provides Current Support and Promotion of the ASTE Community:***

- Fund five (5) annual ASTE honorarium awards.
- Fund the John C. Park annual NTLI award (\$1,200 honorarium).
- Attend, exhibit, and present at the ASTE annual conference.
- Support ASTE members directly by promotion of universities' preservice and in-service teacher education programs.
- Communicate with ASTE members on a direct basis.
- Support and provide resources to new teachers upon placement in their first teaching assignment.
- Partner with ASTE members in research and development to advance science teaching and learning.
- Co-create an ASTE-branded web page for new teacher resources and support as available through Carolina.
- Carolina ASTE Partnership Liaison: Tom Trapp, Field Marketing Representative, [Tom.Trapp@carolina.com](mailto:Tom.Trapp@carolina.com).

**Carolina Biological Supply Company**

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**ASTE Provides Current Support of Carolina as an Industry Partner:**

- Communicate with ASTE members about Carolina three-dimensional science curriculum materials, which include NGSS support and a national OpenSciEd partnership (Communications Committee).
- Provide referrals when and as appropriate.
- Inform ASTE members that Carolina is a market outlet for their published works, research, and development relating to science (Communications Committee).
- Recognize Carolina as a Valued Partner in Science Education.
- Create and develop recommended high-quality instructional material lists for teaching in a three-dimensional science learning environment (Communications Committee).

**Joint Support of Both Organizations:**

- Support understanding and respect for core competencies in science.
- Communicate shared mission and valued additions by working together (Communications Committee).
- Promote pursuit of federal funding support for science and STEM educational resources.
- Provide a conduit for new opportunities for science and STEM education.

**Stated Provisos:**

- ASTE and Carolina are not obligated to endorse each other's organization over other industry partners.
- ASTE and Carolina honor our respective competencies and do not assume any financial obligations.
- ASTE and Carolina will review and amend this LOU, established in good faith, annually for agreement.

Acknowledged to Proceed—

March 6, 2023

Andrea Borowczak, Ed.D.— President  
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Jim Parrish—President and CEO  
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cc: Kate Popejoy, Executive Director

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