

Business Name

SCST Quarterly



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Message from the President

Brian Shmaefsky



Greetings SCST Colleagues!

Welcome to another newsletter. I truly appreciate your membership and I am pleased to have survived my first year as SCST President. Again, I am proud to follow the previous presidents who navigated SCST since its inception in March 24, 1979. I hope everybody is making arrangements for the upcoming SCST Annual Conference in Indiana being held on March 29-April 1, 2012. All of our SCST sessions are in the JW Marriott Indianapolis, 10 S. West Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204. The theme of this conference is "At the Crossroads for Science Education" as established by NSTA.

I want to thank SCST President-Elect Nancy Elwess for organizing the 2012 meeting. We will be having many exciting sessions including a special nanotechnology update and our SCST/NSTA Symposium on Saturday. The topic of the 2012 symposium is the interdisciplinary field of forensic science. In the last newsletter I lamented about the need for a new National Membership Chair to replace Kathy Sorenson.

Tom Lord stepped up to fill in for Kathy, but was then called to serve as chair of NSTA College Section. Then, with little coercion, councilor-at-large Paul Dolan kindly agreed to be

our membership chair. I am hoping to have my colleague Betsy Morgan fill in for Paul as councilor-at-large.

As membership chair, Paul and Secretary/Treasurer Linda Tichenor will be working with NSTA to maintain a strong SCST membership base and a consistent operational relationship with NSTA. I asked NSTA for better communication with SCST at the NSTA Alliance of Affiliates meeting this past summer. It looks like our request was fulfilled and we hope to forge more of a working relationship. Tom Lord has been an SCST in his

new capacity as the college chair.

It is getting to be the time for the SCST Board of Directors elections. Ballots will be going out soon and the deadline for the elections will be in early March 2012. We are a completely volunteer organization and rely on our membership to serve in leadership capacities. I am looking forward to Past President Connie Russell coming up with candidates for our board. Plus, we are always looking for nominations of exceptional colleagues for the SCST Outstanding Undergraduate Science Teacher Award (OUSTA). Claire Sandler is handling the nominations and more information can be found at the SCST OUSTA page at <http://www.scst.org/grants/ousta>. Our 2012 OUSTA recipient is Dr. Kimberly Tanner of the University of California, San Francisco. Please come by to hear her speak at the NSTA/SCST College Luncheon on Saturday of the convention.

As mentioned in the last newsletter, please visit the new SCST website at <http://www.scst.org/>. Our webmaster Nick Roster has developed a Society for College Science Teachers (SCST) Facebook. Please go to <http://www.facebook.com/> and search for our page. Please "Friend" us to know that you found the website. I am posting information for members about SCST opportunities and interesting science tidbits that are pertinent to our teaching.

I hope the rest of the academic year goes well and I look forward to hearing from you. I would be a pleasure to see you in Indianapolis at our conference in 2012.

Feel free to contact me at: brian.r.shmaefsky@lonestar.edu.

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~ Brian

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National Convention

March 29 – April 1, 2012

Indianapolis

JW Marriott Indianapolis,
10 S. West Street,
Indianapolis, IN 46204
(All SCST sessions will be held here)

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Announcement

Paul Dolan has agreed to be the acting National Membership chair to serve on the Board.



National Meeting Session Schedule

Thursday

SCST Sessions

SCST Sessions			
THURSDAY March 29, 2012			
Session/Time	Session ID	Speakers	Title
1: 8:00-9:00 AM			
2. 9:30-10:30 AM	1177196	Grant Gardner, Jennifer Forrester, Penny Jeffrey, Miriam Ferzli	Relationships and Responsibilities: Introducing Rising College Freshman to a Science Community of Practice
	1177201	Donald French, Joshua Mathis, Adrian Walker	Preferences of the 21 st century students for social networking in college science classes
	1177203	Renee Clary, James Wandersee	Optimizing Online Discussion Board Forums' Content and Time Parameters for Increased Student Scientific Literacy
3. 12:30-1:30 PM	1177210	Stephen Witzig, Marcelle Siegel, Sharyn Freyermuth	Is DNA alive? Confronting students' misconceptions about DNA through innovative instruction.
	1177211	Tracey Hickox, Gretchen Adams, Jennifer McNeilly	Recruitment and Retention of STEM majors and the Merit Model: How It Works and How We Know
	1177212	Linda Crow, Anitha Iyer, Nishi Mathews, Joe Trackey	Assessment Challenges for Undergraduate Introductory Biology Courses: A Study of Online and Traditional Approaches
4. 2:00-3:00 PM	1177213	Kerry Cheesman	The Role of an Inquiry-Based Science Program in Encouraging Undergraduate Research
	1177214	Tarren Shaw	The use of a computer program to facilitate group construction in an inquiry based biology lab.
	1177215	Brian Shmaefsky	Tangent Worlds: Teaching Academic Science Versus Commercial Science Skills
5. 3:30-4:30 PM		Pearson	Tentative: Pearson Rep giving presentation in exchange for sponsoring
	1177217	Tony Murphy	A New Model in STEM Preparation for Elementary Education Majors
6. 4:30-5:00pm	1177216	Thomas Lord	Please tell me what I need to know to teach this course

National Meeting Session Schedule

Friday

FRIDAY March 30, 2012			
Session/Time	Session ID	Speakers	Title
7. 8:00-9:30 AM			Nanotechnology I
			Nanotechnology II
			Nanotechnology III
8. 9:30-10:30 AM	1177218	Colleen McLinn, Heather Lerner	Teaching Phylogenetic Thinking Using Physical and Digital Museum Specimens
	1177221	Susan Goetz, Gina Mancini Samuelson.	Full STEAM Ahead – Adding art to STEM Education
9. 12:30-1:30 PM			Marjorie Gardner Lecture -
10. 2:00-3:00 PM	1177222	Thayne Sweeten	What do students think about interactive video conference broadcasts and how do they respond differently to these broadcasts compared to face-to-face delivery?
		Sandra Latourelle	Socioscientific and Bioethical Issues
3:30-5:00 PM		Business Meeting	
7:30-9:00 PM		Dessert Social & Poster Session	



National Meeting Session Schedule

Event Location

Date(s)	Event	Comments
WEDNESDAY March 28, 2012 1:00 – 10:00 pm	SCST Board Meeting	We would like a board room with coffee and snack service to be determined later. Would like it close to the regular session rooms.
THURSDAY March 29, 2012– SATURDAY March 31, 2012 7:30 AM – 6:00 PM	All SCST (Regular) Sessions	We would like to schedule these all in the same room including the business meeting.
FRIDAY March 30, 2012 3:30-5:00 PM	Business Meeting	We would like to schedule the Business Meeting in the same room as the other SCST Sessions if possible – we are scheduling it right after the 2:00-3:00 PM sessions. We will need light snacks for this event.
FRIDAY March 30, 2012 7:30-9:00 PM	Dessert Social & Poster Session	We need a large room for this close to the sessions room and we will need to rent poster boards. We will need an assortment of desserts for this as well as soft drinks, tea and coffee and a cash bar.
SATURDAY March 31, 2012 7:30 – 12:00 noon	NSTA/SCST Nanotechnology Symposium	We need a large room for this close to the sessions room. Two nearby rooms will be needed for breakout sessions. Another room will be needed for a poster session with a food area. Will need to rent poster boards. There will be a breakfast function at the start of the symposium.
SATURDAY March 31, 2012 12:00 noon – 1:30 PM	NSTA/SCST College Luncheon	This will be a ticketed event – The closer you can put this to where our Regular and Symposium sessions meet the better.



Regional Updates

SCST Councilors-at-Large

Watch for updates on the upcoming area meetings

NEW FORMAT FOR SCST AREA CONFERENCES

This fall's SCST sessions at NSTA Area Conferences in Hartford, New Orleans, and Seattle will be organized differently---we will offer two-hour workshops rather than multiple shorter presentations.



Regional Updates

SCST Councilors-at-Large

Hartford

The SCST session at the NSTA Area Conference in Hartford, Connecticut, occurred on October 28, 2011. For the two-hour session I presented a workshop entitled “Lecture-Free Teaching: A Learning Partnership between Science Educators and Their Students.” Twenty-five high school and college science educators attended the SCST session. In September I had emailed every college science educator in Connecticut to inform them of the Society for College Science Teachers and the upcoming workshop. Many of the college educators who attended told me that before receiving the email they had not heard of SCST. To reach college educators interested in pedagogy I recommend this method of communication before an event.

Bonnie S. Wood, Ph.D.

Seattle

SCST & AAPT collaborate to offer exciting workshop sessions at Seattle Regional Meeting.

Lillian C. McDermott, Peter Shaffer, and Donna Messina of the Physics Education Group at the University of Washington (noted leaders in the field of PER) will be offering “**Physics by Inquiry: A Guided Inquiry Curriculum**” on Friday, December 8, 2011 at the Seattle meeting. Participants will get to “*Experience the power of semi-Socratic dialogues as a means of assessment and discuss ways in which these strategies can be implemented in your classroom.*” Come and learn how these techniques can be applied to YOUR discipline!

Paul Dolan

Outstanding Undergraduate Science Teacher Award

OUSTA Award Committee Update

2012 OUSTA Winner Announced
Kimberly D. Tanner, San Francisco State University



Claire Sandler
OUSTA Chair

The 2011-2012 winner of the Society for College Science Teachers (SCST) Outstanding Undergraduate Science Teacher Award (OUSTA) is Kimberly D. Tanner who is Associate Professor of Biology at San Francisco State University. The 2012 OUSTA award has been generously sponsored by the Springer Publishing Company.

A neurobiologist by training, Tanner is an innovative teacher who employs inquiry-based learning and interactive methods in her highly-rated classes for biology majors, non-majors and science education graduate students. She utilizes a variety of approaches to teaching, assessing and adapting methods and materials in order to make learning biology most meaningful for her students. Kimberly Tanner is regarded as a national leader in biology education research whose groundbreaking work has helped define and publicize the position of tenure-track science education specialists in science departments. One of her current research projects is an investigation of the extent to which undergraduate biology majors develop expertise over the course of their undergraduate studies. Her current research activities address three primary areas: 1) the impact of scientist-teacher partnership models on teachers, scientists and students; 2) the development of novel approaches to classroom assessment; and 3) the effectiveness of approaches to promoting gender equity in the sciences. At SFSU, Tanner established the Science Education Partnership and Assessment Laboratory (SEPAL), which facilitates and investigates the impact of scientist-teacher partnerships as a mechanism of science education reform and K-20+ articulation. Tanner is currently the Principal Investigator on three NSF-funded projects and one NIH-funded SPECTRUM project that was established to build pathways to biomedical research for girls and women of color. Tanner also has a prolific record of scholarly publication including two books: *Girls in Science: A Framework for Action* - which won the 2009 Association of Educational Publishers Distinguished Achievement Award - and *Transformations: Approaches to College Science Teaching*, coauthored with Deborah Allen. Considered by her colleagues to be a productive, dynamic, imaginative, energetic, inspiring, creative, caring and collaborative teacher-scholar, Dr. Tanner is a most worthy recipient of the 2012 Outstanding Undergraduate Science Teacher Award.

Please join us for the OUSTA presentation and Dr. Tanner's remarks during the NSTA/SCST College Luncheon to be held on Saturday, March 31 during the 2012 NSTA/SCST national conference in Indianapolis.

SCST established the OUSTA to recognize the achievement of our colleagues who have enhanced the profession as outstanding teachers of science. The annual award is based upon a selection process that evaluates nominees according to the following categories: 1) teaching excellence; 2) scholarship; and 3) service to science education.

Member Contributions and Announcements

Editor's Note:

Howdy! We finally made it to the Christmas break. I hope everybody will have a safe and happy break.. I am looking for any items for the "Upcoming Events" .

Zane



Please send contributions to Best Teaching Tip and Member Contribution and Announcements to me at zane.laws@cisco.edu.

Upcoming Events:

Spring Newsletter contribution deadline is January 15.

National conference:

March 29—April 1 2012

