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Week of August 10, 2009

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2009 National Congress on Science Education Resolutions

NSTA brought together representatives of its Chapters and governing bodies in Miami, Florida, in July for the National Congress on Science Education. [Click here](#) (PDF) to view the resolutions discussed and voted on.

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Register Now for Fall *Atlas* Workshops

Looking for a new perspective on science content standards? Let Project 2061's *Atlas of Science Literacy* strand maps show you the "big picture" of how student understanding in key topics might grow from K to 12. The "Using *Atlas of Science Literacy*" workshops will help you enhance your understanding of science literacy and improve curricula, instruction, and assessment.

Register now for an upcoming *Atlas* workshop:

- September 14–16, 2009, Museum of Life + Science, Durham, NC
- October 19–21, 2009, AAAS, Washington, DC

For details on scholarships, registration, and more, visit the [workshop section](#) of the Project 2061 website.

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Serve on NSTA's Board and Council

Are you looking for a challenging leadership position that impacts local, state, and national science education? You can make a difference in science education by choosing to serve on NSTA's Board and Council. This is an excellent means to create systemic change in science education. Let your voice be heard. We are currently accepting applications for the **2010 NSTA election**.

NSTA Board of Directors offices to be filled in the 2010 election are:

President—term of office: three-year commitment from June 2010 through May 2013
(Year one as President-Elect; year two as President; year three as Retiring President);

Division Directors—term of office: three-year commitment beginning June 2010 through May 2013.
NSTA seeks directors for these divisions:

- College Level Science Teaching
- Coordination & Supervision
- High School Level Science Teaching

NSTA Council offices to be filled in the 2010 election are **District Directors**—term of office: three-year commitment beginning June 2010 through May 2013. The districts involved are:

- District III—Delaware, District of Columbia, Virginia
- District V—Alabama, Canal Zone, Florida, Georgia, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands
- District IX—Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota
- District XI—Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska
- District XV—Idaho, Montana, Wyoming
- District XVII—Alaska, Oregon, Washington

Submission deadline is **October 15, 2009**. You can apply online or download an application at www.nsta.org/nominations. Questions? Call 703-312-9217.

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From the NSTA Calendar: Coleopterists Society's Youth Incentive Award

This international organization of professionals and hobbyists interested in the study of beetles has a program to recognize young people (grades 7–12) studying beetles. The society provides up to \$300 each year. In addition to monetary grants of \$150, awardees will receive up to \$200 (Junior Award) and \$400 (Senior Award) of equipment credit from the BioQuip Products catalog, along with a one-year subscription to the society's journal, *The Coleopterists Bulletin*.

The society invites proposals for topics such as field collecting trips to conduct beetle species inventories or diversity studies, attendance at workshops or visits to entomology or natural history museums for special training and projects on beetles, study of aspects of beetle biology, and so on. The proposed activities or projects will be evaluated on their degree of creativity, educational benefit to the applicant, scientific merit, feasibility, and budgetary planning. To learn more, visit the [Coleopterists Society's website](#). The application deadline is **November 15, 2009**.

This is just a sample of what you will find in the [NSTA Calendar](#).

Need to publicize a science education opportunity? Use the [submission page](#) to send an item for inclusion in the Calendar (subject to staff review).

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Reason No. 5 for Attending an NSTA Conference: Passion

There are [10 terrific reasons](#) for science educators to come to this event, but today we are focusing on Reason No. 5: Passion. Because sharing it with your peers, your mentors, and leaders in science education is contagious.

Join NSTA Oct. 29–31 in Minneapolis at the Conference on Science Education to kick off our fall season for the finest in professional development. Thousands of attendees will get involved, learn teaching strategies in assessment, tackle new content using inquiry, enjoy new products shared by top companies who take pride in their giveaways (bring a tote!), and meet peers and experts who inspire us with their passion for science. We offer programs for every discipline and every grade band, K–16, preservice to administrators. View a sampling of workshops and sessions just for **biology** teachers:

- **Biology Day (8:00 am–4:30 pm), sponsored by the National Association of Biology Teachers**
- **No Child Left Inside**—Want to get your students outside to study science? Learn about a university/elementary school partnership that studied insects.
- **Award-winning Inquiry Lab Activities for High School Biology**—Learn how to conduct three high-interest lab activities that give students experience in hypothesis formation, experimental design, data collection, and interpretation. .
- **EDVOTEK Biotechnology: Biotechnology on a Budget**—Bring DNA, genetics, and biotechnology to life in your classroom with exciting, affordable, and ready-to-use activities that include genetics games, DNA extraction, spooling, and DNA electrophoresis using fluorescent dyes.
- **Blended Inquiry Learning Environments**—A classroom-tested biotechnology unit illustrates how virtual and hands-on inquiry can be integrated to teach about concepts, design processes, experimental errors, and related biases.
- **The Effect of Educative Curriculum Materials on Teacher Learning, Classroom Practice, and Student Achievement**—Does professional development make a difference? How about educative curriculum materials? Come find out how the separate and combined impacts influenced teacher and student scores on content knowledge.
- **An Inquiry-based Lab Using Allelopathy**—Students extract chemicals from invasive and native plants and apply them to lettuce seeds to analyze for allelopathy.
- **Exploring Contemporary Issues in Population Genetics with Formative Assessments**
- **Teaching AP Biology with Games and Models**
- **Examining the Bioethics of Animals in Research**

Don't forget about field trips, keynote speaker Robert Louv, social networking, and graduate credits to be earned through Hamline University. Register by **September 18** to get the earlybird discount. Visit www.nsta.org/minneapolis for details.

And Don't Forget...

Visit our **member services web page** to ensure that NSTA has your current [contact information](#). And when the time comes to renew—select the "Autorenew" option!

Visit the [NSTA Science Store](#) for an outstanding array of bestselling books and teaching resources. Receive 30% off the price of the August featured book, [NSTA Ready-Reference to Safer Science](#).

Professional development courses in your future?
Online options give you a world of choice.
Take a look at these groups offering [courses](#) for science educators!

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