

**Southeastern Association for Science Teacher Education (SASTE)  
Annual Business Meetings and Luncheon  
Secretary/Treasurer's Report**

**Date:** October 17, 2015

**Location:** Oxbow Meadows Environmental Education Learning Center

**Host Institution:** Columbus State University

**SASTE President:** Michael Dentzau

**Theme:** Learning in Unique Contexts

**Business Meeting:** President Mike Dentzau opened the business meeting at 12:20pm and welcomed the SASTE members. In his presidential comments, he provided an overview of the history of Oxbow Meadows and its relationship with Columbus State and the local water works company, as well as highlighted several of its unique features.

Dentzau referenced the secretary/treasurer's report included with the conference materials received during registration. He then recognized Courtney Howard (College of Charleston) who is stepping down after 10 years of service as Secretary/Treasurer and presented her with a plaque. Dentzau opened the floor for nominations for a new Secretary/Treasurer. Randy Spaid nominated Dr. Sumitra Himangshu (Middle Georgia State University). The nomination was seconded by Alejandro Gallard. No other nominations were received. By voice vote, Sumitra Himangshu was elected Secretary/Treasurer.

Dentzau opened the floor for nominations for President-Elect. Alejandro Gallard nominated Barry Golden, but he declined. Jennifer Mesa nominated John Pecore (University of West Florida). The nomination was seconded. By voice vote, John Pecore was elected 2017-2018 President-Elect.

Old business –

Item 1: Dentzau noted that members who pay membership fees but do not attend the conference are technically supposed to have voting rights. This will be addressed at a later meeting. Per discussion at the 2014 business meeting, Dentzau requested approval to post papers, session abstracts, nominations letters, and keynote speech transcript to the SASTE website by the 2016 conference.

Item 2: Mississippi is to be included as part of SASTE. Dentzau did not actively recruit representation from that state, so this should become a priority of the next president.

New business -

Item 1: Request for Dentzau, as the ASTE Regional Representative for SASTE: He was not able to attend the conference last year due to finances and may not be able to attend this year due to his travel status. In the event he is able to travel, Dentzau is seeking travel funds from SASTE to augment the expenses associated with attending the January 2016 conference in Reno, NV. Discussion - SASTE's budget may not be able to sustain this practice; What do other regions do? Are funds needed for the summer planning meeting and/or the national meeting in January?

A motion was made to allow the SASTE executive board to decide if funds can be approved to support the ASTE representative or send a proxy. The motion was seconded. By voice vote, the motion was approved.

Item 2: In an effort to increase the participation of graduate students and P-12 teachers from and around the host institution, Dentzau suggested that SASTE implement an additional level of registration for lunch only. Current levels of registration include faculty ( \$80) and graduate student/teacher/retired faculty (\$40). Also, SASTE currently accepts membership dues (\$40) for individuals not attending the conference.

Discussion – This new rate should be limited to non-presenting graduate students and local teachers who are not seeking SASTE membership; How do we define “local”? Is this affordable?

A motion was made to allow the SASTE executive board to decide if this is a feasible option for next year’s conference. The motion was seconded. By voice vote, the motion was approved.

No faculty or student position papers were received this year. There was no explicit mention of it in the Call for Proposals. Next year’s Call for Proposals should place more emphasis on the position papers.

Randy Spaid made a motion to adjourn the business meeting. Seconded by Katie Brkich.

Meeting adjourned.

**Awards & Keynote Address:**

John Shrum Award presented to Michael Dias (Kennesaw State University)  
Presented by Charles Eick

Deborah Tippins Mentoring Award presented to Alejandro Gallard (Georgia Southern University)  
Presented by Mike Dentzau

Rod Nave Award presented to Kimberly Shaw (Columbus State University)  
Presented by Mike Dentzau

2014 Past President Service and Leadership Award presented to Katie Brkich (Georgia Southern University)

Introduction of keynote speaker by Alejandro Gallard

Keynote address by Dr. Joseph Whittaker (Professor and Associate Director of the NASA GESTAR program at the Goddard Space Flight Center) whose talk was titled *Learning in unique contexts: The value of an interdisciplinary approach*.

Invitation to next year’s conference by 2016 SASTE President Brendan Callahan (Kennesaw State University). The theme will address 21<sup>st</sup> century science teaching, careers, and society.

Submitted by Courtney Howard, outgoing Secretary/Treasurer

## CONFERENCE AND FINANCIAL REPORT

### Annual Conference Comparative Data

	2006 (Mercer University)	2007 (Valdosta State University)	2008 (University of South Carolina)	2009 (Kennesaw)	2010 (Georgia State/Agnes Scott)	2011 (University of Georgia)	2012 (Macon State College)	2013 (Georgia Southern University)	2014 (Georgia Southern University)	2015 (Columbus State University)
Registrations	103	62	52	85	69	90	35	30	33	41
Membership only (no conf)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	5	1
Funds Collected	\$ 3774.00	\$2500.00	\$ 2065.00	\$4405.00	\$3835.00	\$4350.00	\$1822.94	\$1936.20	\$2051.50	\$2167.16
Funds Spent (including awards)	\$ 2984.80	\$3345.91	\$ 2337.65	\$4393.46	\$4043.18	\$5993.70	\$2539.13	\$1547.36	\$2262.01	\$1800.66
Remainder	\$ 789.20	\$ -845.91	\$ - 272.65	\$ 11.54	\$ - 208.18	\$-1643.70	\$-716.19	\$388.84	\$ -210.51	\$366.50

Non-Conference Transactions: -\$98.40 domain name/website annual fee

### Financial Information (WILL BE UPDATED CLOSER TO THE CONFERENCE DATE)

#### Account information

*Funds are deposited into three accounts at the Akron Firefighters Credit Union*

Savings account:	\$ 5.06
Checking account:	\$ 342.94
Money Market:	<u>\$ 6,597.59</u>
TOTAL	\$ 6945.59

#### Dividends Earnings Comparative Data

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Checking Account	\$ 0.03	\$ 0.42	\$ 2.20	\$ 2.29	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$0.00	
Money Market	\$ 305.47 (2.89-3.5% APY)	\$ 437.53 (3.21-5.06% APY)	\$169.16 (2.26-2.76% APY)	\$ 46.61 (1.5- 2.0% APY)	\$ 42.98 (0.17-0.75% APY)	\$ 5.46 (0.15% APY)	\$ 5.55 (.10% APY)	\$4.95 (0.15% APY)	\$2.49 (0.15% APY)	
TOTAL	\$ 305.50	\$ 375.07	\$171.36	\$ 48.90	\$ 42.98	\$ 5.46	\$ 5.55	\$4.95	\$2.49	

Submitted by Courtney A. Howard, outgoing Secretary/Treasurer, [howardcal@cofc.edu](mailto:howardcal@cofc.edu)