



Updates

August, 2022

Hello SASTE associates!

I hope you are all preparing for the upcoming conference. Enjoy the reminders below and check out our [website](#) (still under renovation but a bit more organized).

Join the SASTE GroupMe! This app is intended to be used for communication between attendees. If you plan to fly into Pensacola and rent a car, others may be doing the same so you may be able to organize a carpool. While we are at the conference, individuals may be interested in an activity and would like to invite others...use this app to do that. Basically we want to implement a small form of pre-collaboration to encourage a grand scale of hospitality among our region. You can scan the QRC below or use this [link](#).



SASTE 2022 Annual Meeting

October 7-8

Date: October 7-8, 2022

Theme: Science Education: A New World

Keynote Speaker: Vince Jordan, Chief Technology Officer, Optima Domi

Topic: Virtual Reality in the Classroom

Venue: [The Lodge at the Gulf State Park](#) in Gulf Shores, Alabama.

- \$179 per night for the Park View King Bed. If you would like a different style room, try calling early to book and negotiate for the same price within our block.
- Book online [HERE](#) or call the hotel directly, 251-540-4000.
- The group code is STE

- We have a block of rooms for Thursday October 6th, Friday October 7th and Saturday October 8th.
- If you have any issues, email slee@bagley.msstate.edu

Travel information:

Flights - recommended to fly into Pensacola Intl. (PNS) then drive about 1 hour to Gulf Shores, AL

Driving - Gulf Shores is located with-in a day's drive of most of our region's largest cities. Please drive safe.

Activities for fun:

The Hotel offers direct beach access, an outdoor pool, 28 miles of walking and biking trails, rent a bike or beach equipment including paddle boards and kayaks, see this [link](#) for more!...why leave?

For those wanting to explore the area, Gulf Shores (west) and Orange Beach (east) have many fun outdoor dining restaurants including The Hangout, and The Gulf, there are also countless tourist experiences (zoo, fishing, beaches). For those interested in the "night life" the infamous Flora-Bama is only 15 minutes away.

Tentative Conference Agenda:

Thursday October 6 -

Evening gathering, hopefully with the on-site naturalist/outdoor educator and dinner at Woodside Restaurant (dutch treat).

Friday October 7 - main event

Morning Sessions

Keynote and Lunch (provided)

Afternoon Sessions

Saturday October 8 - morning only

Casual/Organized Collaboration (writing, planning, mentorships)

Submit Conference Proposals by August 15, 2022

Following the success of the 2021 hybrid event, the SASTE 2022 meeting is planned to be hybrid. However, it will be difficult to refuse this two day face-to-face, beach front experience.

When choosing your participation format, please consider the following:

- Choosing the hybrid format is a risk individuals choose to take. A refund will not be provided if internet connection is interrupted.
- Conference fees will be the same for both virtual and in person attendees to support increased technology needs for the hybrid model.
- Virtual presentations will ONLY have the option for live synchronous presentations, no pre-recorded video presentations.

Submit proposals [here](#). Due August 15, 2022

Membership and Registration

To register to attend the annual SASTE conference, complete this [registration form](#). All persons planning to attend must complete a separate registration form. Please complete registration by August 31st so we can provide an attendance count to the venue.

Registration Fees:

Faculty/Higher Ed. Admin Fee: \$80.00

College student/K-12 teacher/School Admin/Retired Higher Ed: \$40.00

Membership Fees: \$40.00

The membership shall consist of persons concerned with the professional development of teachers of science who have registered for the annual conference.

Membership shall be complimentary for all individuals who register for the annual conference. Therefore, no membership dues are collected for those who have updated registration fees.

Please pay your registration and membership [here](#).

If you would like to use a check to pay the fee(s), you can send the check to Shana Lee at Mail stop 9544 Mississippi State, MS 39762. Please email slee@bagley.msstate.edu with the check number and first and last names of the person(s) the payment is for when you mail it.

Regional Award & Election Nominations

Elections: Submit nominations by September 30th

During the 2022 regional meeting, an election for a new ASTE Representative, President-Elect and Secretary-Treasurer will be held. Self-nominations are accepted. All nominees must be current members of SASTE. Information about the duties of SASTE officers can be found on the [SASTE bylaws page](#).

Awards: Submit nominations by September 19th

SASTE offers a number of awards: John Shrum Award, Deborah Tippins Mentor Award, Rod Nave Award, Eddie Griffen Memorial Award for Outstanding Graduate Student Position Paper, and Outstanding Faculty Position Paper. Information about each award can be found on the [SASTE Awards page](#).

Regional award nominations and election nominations can be submitted using [this form](#).

Regional Recognition

Let us all recognize and celebrate the closing of the Summer 2022 semester. Congratulations to all graduates associated with SASTE and to all of the SASTE membership for their continued dedication and efforts in leading and mentoring future science educators.

Submit future recognition! For the fall newsletter, submit by October 10.

Other News

Graduate students and newer faculty, If you would like to be **paired with a mentor** during the SASTE conference, please complete this [form](#). By September 15th.

If you would like to **be a mentor**, please complete this [form](#).

Submit future announcements! For the fall newsletter, submit by October 10.

Social Media Connections & Closing Remarks

If you are not already a member of our [Facebook group, please join us!](#)

[AND JOIN THE GroupMe](#) for conference travel planning and more fun!

See you in October! Please email Shana Lee slee@bagley.msstate.edu if you have any questions or ideas you would like to share.

Sincerely,

Your SASTE Leadership Team:

President: Dr. Shana Lee, Mississippi State University

President-Elect: Dr. Joshua Ellis, Florida International University

Past-President: Dr. Melanie Kinskey, Sam Houston State University

Secretary-Treasurer: Dr. Emily Dare, Florida International University

Technology Support: Dr. Stacey Britton, University of West Georgia

ASTE Regional Representative: Dr. Jennifer Stark, University of West Florida