



NSTA Web Seminar:
**How to Maximize Your NSTA Conference
Experience**

Tuesday, March 3, 2009



Goal of this Web Seminar

To provide tips on how to make the NSTA National Conference in New Orleans a successful PD experience for you.



But first, a true story...



Why Professional Development?

State and district mandates now require that you demonstrate you are “Highly Qualified” in your content area





What is the National Science Teachers Association?

- The largest professional science educators organization in the world
- Our current membership includes more than 59,000 teachers, supervisors, administrators, and others involved in science education.
- NSTA is the major voice of science educators and a key player in setting the nation's science education agenda.



Are you an NSTA Member?



YES	NO



NSTA Membership...

...Means you Belong!

- Book discounts
- Conference discounts
- Free journals, newsletters, e-publications, seminars
- Networking, listservs, online teaching products
- Student chapters



How does NSTA Improve Science Education?

- Journals, Publications, Classroom Products and Services
- Best-in-Class PD
- Networking and Leadership Opportunities
- Unified voice among policymakers





Publications

- Award-winning NSTA Press books
- Journals devoted to elementary, middle, high school and college teachers



- *SciLinks* –vetted science websites
- E-newsletters with up to date science news





NSTA Press Publications

- For teachers, by teachers.
- More than 100,000 publications sold annually.
- Wide range of topics for all grade spans.





What Attendees Say about the NSTA Conference...





NSTA National Conference 2009 in New Orleans

Are you registered to attend?



New Orleans, LA
March 19-22, 2009

YES	NO



How to Maximize Your NSTA Conference Experience

Let's talk about the Conference Sessions



NSTA Conference: Components

- Invited Presentations
- Concurrent Sessions
- Short Courses
- Symposia
- PDIs
- RDC
- Field Trips and Social Functions
- Exhibition of Science Teaching Materials



Reminder: Evaluate all sessions!



NSTA Conference: Invited Presentations

- General Session
 - Mark Plotkin, Ethnobotanist and President, Amazon Conservation Team
 - Michael DiSpezio, Author and Global Educator
- Featured Presentations
 - Renowned experts
 - General interest topics



Mark Plotkin



NSTA Conference: Concurrent Sessions

- Presentations
- Workshops
- Exhibitor Workshops

For all of the above:

- 30 or 60 min. sessions
- No ticket required
- Arrive early!
- Hundreds scheduled





NSTA National Conference 2009: First timer or experienced?

I am attending an NSTA Conference for the 1 st time	I have attended an NSTA Conference before

If a first timer, consider attending one of the two “first timers” sessions scheduled!



NSTA Conference: Short Courses

- Three to six hrs.
- Fee based, ticketed events
- Several scheduled
- Content & strategies





NSTA Conference: Symposia

- Fee based, ticketed, half-day, workshops
- Content & pedagogical experts
- Follow-up Web Seminars
- Educational materials
- Stipend available (2 programs)





NSTA Conference: Symposia

- NOAA: The Heat is On! Climate Change and Coral Reef Ecosystems
- NIH: Exploring Bioethics – A New Model for Classroom Instruction

Stipend (\$60) available for first 35 participants

- FDA: Teaching Science with Food

Stipend (\$60) available

- USFS, SRS, NOAA: Earth Then, Earth Now: Our Changing Climate

NSTA Press: Energy: Stop Faking It!





NSTA Conference: PDIs

- Day long workshops
- Followed by recommended sessions
- Fee based, ticket required
- Pre-conference





NSTA Conference: RDC

- Day-long Research Dissemination Conf.
- Topic: Science Assessment, Linking Science and Literacy, and Science and English Language Learners: What Does Current Research Say About Best Practices?
- Plenary Speakers: Peter Dow and Mike Klentschy
- Teachers Grades K-12
- Fee based, ticket required
- Saturday, March 21, 7 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.



If you have attended a previous NSTA Conference, do you have a positive experience to share?

1.

2.

Raise your hand to volunteer.



NSTA Conference: Field Trips and Social Functions

- Field Trips
 - Half or full day
 - Fee based, ticket required
- Social Functions
 - Fee based, ticket required





Let's Pause for Two Questions from the Audience about the Conference Sessions



Assessment Exercise: Matching

A. Day long

D. Pre-conference

G. Fee based

B. Free w/registration

E. One hour

H. 3-6 hrs. long

C. Explore host city

F. Stipend

J. Mark Plotkin

Field Trips	Short Courses	Concurrent Sessions
Symposia	Invited Presentations	PDIs



How to Maximize Your NSTA Conference Experience

Let's talk about the Conference Exhibits



NSTA Conference: Exhibition of Science Teaching Materials

Main Hall Days/Time

- Thu., 10 AM – 6 PM
- Fri., 9 AM – 5 PM
- Sat., 9 AM – 5 PM





NSTA Conference: Exhibits

- What's there?
 - Latest textbooks
 - Computer hardware/software
 - Lab equipment
 - Ed. Materials
 - PD opportunities
- Registration badge: required





NSTA Booth: All about NSTA

- Membership
- Prof. Development
- Publications
- Awards and Competitions
- Networking





NSTA Booth: Your “Homebase”

- Complete your “Question Card”
- Redeem for a Pre-Loaded Flash Drive
- Preview and take home samples of Publications
- Create your profile and explore NSTA’s new Online Communities
- Explore the *NSTA Learning Center*
- Learn about NSTA’s—Awards programs for You and Your Students
- Network with NSTA staff and Elected Leaders





NSTA Conference: Science Store

- Hundreds of books and teachers' resources
- New Spring releases for 2009
- Select authors discuss their work/sign books
- NSTA members save 20% on all NSTA Press® products; 10% on other products





Let's Pause for Two Questions from the Audience about the Conference Exhibits



How to Maximize Your NSTA Conference Experience

What can you do
TODAY to prepare for
the Conference?



NSTA Conference: Resources: Before the Conference

NSTA Web Site

- Dates
- Registration
- Sessions
- Travel
- Lodging



<http://www.nsta.org/conferences>



NSTA Conference: Resources: Before the Conference

Conference Preview

- Hardcopy publication
- Program highlights
- Forms and Info
- Also online!



<http://www.nsta.org/pdfs/2009NewOrleansPreview.pdf>



Poll Question for the Audience



Have you used the NSTA Conference Personal Scheduler (CPS)?

A. YES, I have.

B. NO, I haven't.

C. I don't know what the CPS is.





NSTA Conference: Resources: Before the Conference

Conference Personal Scheduler

- Personal calendar
- Planning
- Identify conflicts
- Justify your trip

The screenshot shows the NSTA National Conference website. The header includes the NSTA logo and navigation links: About NSTA, Member Services, Professional Development, Conferences and Institutes, Publications and Products, Exhibits and Advertising, Get Involved, and Science Store. The main content area is titled "NSTA Conferences on Science Education" and "NSTA National Conference, Boston, MA". It features a "LOGIN" section with a welcome message for a registered user and a "PERSONAL SCHEDULER" section with a link to "View my Personal Schedule". The "Daily Calendar of Events" section shows dates from Monday, 3/24 to Sunday, 3/29. The "Browse Events" section includes dropdown menus for "Browse by event format", "Browse by subject", "Browse by grade level", "Browse by conference strand", and "Browse by event sponsor", along with a "Browse Events" button. The "Search Events" section includes a "Find Keyword" input field and a "Search Events" button.

<http://www.nsta.org/conferences/schedule.aspx?id=2009NEW>



The Conference Personal Scheduler

NSTA National Conference, New Orleans, LA

Paul Tingler: your personal schedule of events is below. To delete an event, click the X located in the top right corner of each event box.

Please note: Adding sessions (even nonticketed sessions) to your personal schedule does not mean you are registered to attend the conference. See the [registration page](#) for information on how to register.

☐ [Click here to add more events](#) | [Click here for printer-friendly version](#)

[Export Thursday](#)

[Click here for directions on exporting and importing calendar data](#)

Thursday, March 19, 2009

8 ^{am}	New Science Teacher Academy Breakfast 7:30-9:30 AM :: Waterbury Ballroom, Sheraton New Orleans	
9 ^{am}		
10 ^{am}		
11 ^{am}		
12 ^{pm}		
1 ^{pm}	SYM-1: NSTA/NSTA Symposium: Exploring BioEthics: A New Model for Classroom Instruction 1:00-5:30 PM :: Room 122, Ernest N. Morial Convention Center	SYM-2: Climate Change/NSTA Symposium: Earth Then, Earth Now: Our Changing Climate 1:30-5:00 PM :: Room 126, Ernest N. Morial Convention Center
2 ^{pm}		
3 ^{pm}		
4 ^{pm}		



Question



Now that I know how the Conference Personal Scheduler works, I plan to use it and tell others about it.

YES	NO





How to Maximize Your NSTA Conference Experience

Things to consider
while at the
Conference



NSTA Conference: Tips

- Read the Final Program
- Study the area map
- Sort sessions by location
- Carry a snack/Stay hydrated
- Lots of goodies...think about how to pack





NSTA Conference: Tips

What to wear?





NSTA Conference: Tips

What to do/where to go after hours?

- NSTA Social Functions
- Listserv and FaceBook get-togethers
- Check your Hotel
- Ask your colleagues
- Room Service?



Are you a night owl?



How to Maximize Your NSTA Conference Experience

What can you do
AFTER the
Conference?



NSTA Conference: After you Return home

- Share the experience
- Give NSTA your feedback
- Get your transcript
- Attend Web Seminars
- Participate in listservs
- Present at future conference



<http://learningcenter.nsta.org/transcript.aspx>



Enjoy the Conference!



New Orleans, LA

March 19-22, 2009



<http://www.elluminate.com>

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Welcome to Your Professional Development

The Learning Center is NSTA's e-professional development portal to help you address your classroom needs and busy schedule. You can gain access to more than 2,600 different resources that cater to your preference for learning. Over 700 hundred resources, such as journal articles, science objects and web seminars are available **for free**. A suite of practical tools such as My Library, My Transcript, and My Professional Development Plan and Portfolio tool help you organize, personalize, and document your growth over time.



Explore Learning Opportunities

[See all FREE Resources](#)

[Advanced Search](#)

By Subject	By Grade Level	By State Standards
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Earth & Space Science Life Science Physical Science 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elementary Middle School High School College 	<p>Find resources based on their correlation to your state standards.</p> <p>Coming Soon!</p>


Do-It-Yourself Learning


Live Online Seminars & Classes

Learn at your own pace online with these 1-2 or 6-10 hour interactive activities.

Learn online from certified instructors with your colleagues. 1-2 hour seminars, week and month long courses are available. Earn state

Login

E-mail:

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Featured PD Opportunity



POLAR SCIENCE, GLOBAL DISCOVERIES: IPY RESEARCH UPDATE
 NSTA Symposium National Conference
 Boston, MA
 March 27-30, 2008
[Learn More](#)

Underwritten in part by NSF, NASA, and NOAA

<http://learningcenter.nsta.org>

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