NSTA Web Seminar:
How to Maximize Your NSTA Conference Experience

Wednesday, March 12, 2008
Goal of this Web Seminar

To provide tips on how to make the NSTA National Conference in Boston 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 57,000 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?

<table>
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<tr>
<th>YES</th>
<th>NO</th>
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NSTA Membership…

…Means you Belong!

- Book discounts
- Conference discounts
- Free journals, newsletters, e-publications, seminars
- Networking, listservs, online teaching products
- Student chapters, BaP
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.
NSTA Conference on Science Education: Enhance and Expand Your Professional Growth

- Open to members and nonmembers
- Latest in science content, teaching strategy, research
What Attendees Say about the NSTA Conference…
NSTA National Conference 2008 in Boston
Are you registered to attend?

Boston, MA
March 27-30, 2008
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
  – Barbara Morgan, NASA Astronaut
  – Chris Linder, Oceanographer (IPY)

• Featured Presentations
  – Renowned experts
  – General interest topics
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 2008: First timer or experienced?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I am attending an NSTA Conference for the 1st time</th>
<th>I have attended an NSTA Conference before</th>
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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 (3 programs)
NSTA Conference: Symposia

- **NOAA**: Coral Ecosystems
- **NASA**: 21st Century Explorer
  Stipend ($60) available
- **FDA**: Teaching Science with Food
  Stipend ($60) available
- **NASA**: Mapping the Moon
  Stipend ($60) available
- **IPY**: Polar Science, Global Discoveries
- **Sally Ride Science**: Igniting Students’ Interests in Science Careers
NASA at NSTA Boston

**NASA Symposia:**
- 21st Century Explorer  Today's Knowledge for Tomorrow Explorer- ESMD Sponsored

- Mapping the Moon: Simulating LOLA in the Classroom- ESMD Sponsored

**NASA Presentations:**
- Over 20 presentations will feature NASA research or educational products for classroom use

Thursday, March 27 2:00–3:00 PM
NASA Session: NASA Aeronautics Research

Thursday, March 27 2:00–3:00 PM
From the Classroom to Outer Space—Are You Suited for Space Travel?

Friday, March 28 5:00–6:00 PM
Informal Science Day: NASA's Sun Earth Day—Space Weather Around the World

Saturday, March 29 9:30–10:30 AM
NASA Session: Going Beyond the Classroom Walls—Invite NASA Experts into Your Classroom Through the Digital Learning Network
NSTA Conference: PDIs

• Day long workshops
• Followed by recommended sessions
• Fee based, ticket required
• Pre-conference
NSTA Conference: RDC

• Day-long Research Dissemination Conf.
• NSF funded
• Topic: Findings in Assessment
• Presenters: Page Keeley & Arthur Eisenkraft
• Teachers Grades 3-12
• Fee based, ticket required
• Saturday, March 29, 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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A. Day long</th>
<th>D. Pre-conference</th>
<th>G. Fee based</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B. Free w/registration</td>
<td>E. One hour</td>
<td>H. 3-6 hrs. long</td>
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<tr>
<td>C. Explore host city</td>
<td>F. Stipend</td>
<td>J. Barbara Morgan</td>
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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
• Science Support
• Networking
NSTA Booth: Your “Homebase”

- Pick Up your District Ribbon
- Get your NSTA Membership Pin
- Preview and take home samples of Publications
- Explore the NSTA Learning Center
- Learn about Science Support—Reward Yourself and Your Students!
- Network with NSTA staff and Elected Leaders
NSTA Conference: Science Store

• Hundreds of books and teachers’ resources
• New Spring releases for 2008
• 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
Conference Preview

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

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 Conference Personal Scheduler identifies schedule conflicts

### NSTA National Conference, Boston, MA

Leila Mendez: your personal schedule of events is below. To delete an event, click the X located in the top right corner of each event box. You may only have up to two events scheduled at the same time. Any additional events will be listed as errors above the schedule. To correct an error, you may either delete one of the two scheduled events listed at that time, or the event listed with the errors.

**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](#)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>6am</strong></td>
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<td><strong>7am</strong></td>
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Cisco Physics Presents: Apparatus to Teach Newton’s Law  
7:30–9:00 AM :: Boston Convention & Exhibition Center, Room 109A |
| **8am** |  
Sticky Notes and Student Identification of Variables in Science Investigations  
8:00–9:00 AM :: Renaissance Boston Waterfront Hotel, Pacific A |
Now that I know how the Conference Personal Scheduler works, I plan to use it and tell others about it.
Things to consider while at the Conference

How to Maximize Your NSTA Conference Experience
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
• 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!

Boston, MA
March 27-30, 2008
Thank You

NASA Explorer Schools

http://explorerschools.nasa.gov
http://learningcenter.nsta.org
National Science Teachers Association
Gerry Wheeler, Executive Director
Frank Owens, Associate Executive Director
Conferences and Programs
Al Byers, Assistant Executive Director e-Learning

NSTA Web Seminars
Flavio Mendez, Director
Danielle Troiano, Project Coordinator
Jeff Layman, Technical Coordinator

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