

NATIONAL SCIENCE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Pre-service Teacher Member of the NSTA Teacher Preparation Committee

Information & Nomination Form

March 31, 2007 – April 1, 2008 Appointment

The NSTA Board of Directors has approved the annual appointment of one exceptional pre-service teacher of science for a one-year term on the Teacher Preparation Committee. Nominees must be active members of an NSTA student chapter. Purposes for this appointment include:

- To receive input from the pre-service science teacher community and NSTA student chapters;
- To promote the professional development of pre-service teachers and the appointed pre-service teacher;

The nomination will be a highly competitive honor for pre-service nominees. For the student selected, the appointment will provide opportunity for early professional growth as a science teacher. *Expectations* for the candidate selected, *NSTA support* for the student, and additional information about *the nomination and selection process* are included on the ***Plans & Expectations*** document that accompanies this ***Information & Nomination Form***. The NSTA Director of Teacher Preparation and the NSTA staff liaison will identify the appointed student's responsibilities.

Nomination packets should include:

- The completed nomination form.
- Candidate's resume. (Maximum length: 1 page with 12 pt font.)
- A university transcript.
- A letter from a cooperating teacher or mentor detailing the candidate's teaching experience or practicum with students (Maximum length: 1.5 pages. Font size is the writer's decision.) The letter should comment, when possible, on the student's understanding and implementation of effective science teaching and his/her potential to become an outstanding science teacher. The letter is to be submitted in a sealed envelope, and must be signed by the teacher or mentor and submitted with the packet by the nominator.
- A letter from the candidate addressing issues relevant to the selection criteria rubric. (Maximum length: 2 pages with 12 pt font)
- A nomination letter from the chapter advisor (Maximum length: 2pp with 12 pt font). Please note that letters that include how the local chapter and/or university and/or advisor will provide support for travel and/or appropriate and reasonable release-time from conventional responsibilities (such as student teaching) will enhance the strength of a candidate's nomination credentials.

Each chapter advisor may submit one nomination for the 2007-2008 appointment on the attached form (page 2). Nominators should submit completed nomination forms and all accompanying materials addressed to: NSTA Pre-service Teacher Nomination, Attn.: Chapter Relations, National Science Teachers Association, 1840 Wilson Blvd, Arlington, VA 22201-3000.

Questions? Contact NSTA Chapter Relations at (800) 722-6782, ext. 370 or e-mail chapters@nsta.org.

NATIONAL SCIENCE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION
Pre-service Teacher Member of the Teacher Preparation Committee

Nomination Form

March 31, 2007 – April 1, 2008 Appointment

Name of nominee:

Nominee's school address:

Nominee's home address:

Nominee's school telephone:

Nominee's home telephone:

Nominee's e-address:

of semesters (or equivalent) before probable graduation:

Probable dates (months & yr) of student teaching:

of semester-length (or equivalent) Science Education courses completed:

of semesters (or equivalent) in Teacher Preparation Program:

Please Circle: Sophomore Junior Senior Graduate Student

Nominee is preparing for (*Please Circle*): Elementary Middle Secondary

Science field of specialization (if any):

Nominators will submit completed nomination forms and all accompanying materials to: NSTA Pre-service Teacher Nomination, Attn.: Chapter Relations, National Science Teachers Association, 1840 Wilson Blvd, Arlington, VA 22201-3000. **The nomination envelope must be received at this NSTA address no later than Monday, December 4th, 2006.**

NATIONAL SCIENCE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION
Preservice Teacher Member of the Teacher Preparation Committee
Plans & Expectations

Purpose of appointing an excellent preservice science teacher leader

- To engage a preservice teacher of science in the work of an NSTA Standing Committee;
- To receive input from the preservice science teacher community and NSTA student chapters;
- To better engage preservice and early career teachers of science in NSTA activities;
- To promote the professional development of preservice teachers of science and the appointed future teacher;
- To support the development of NSTA student chapters and their engagement in NSTA affairs.

Term. One year, to begin during the national convention in the year of appointment. The term will end at the close of the national convention in the following year. (This term does *not* coincide with the beginning and termination dates of other committee members.)

Expectations of the appointed preservice teacher. The student will attend the annual NSTA convention in the spring semester of the first year of his/her appointment. (For example, if appointed by the President in January 2010, the appointee will attend the national convention in March – April 2010.) He or she will:

- Try to attend a regional meeting during the year of Committee membership *and* the annual convention at the end of the appointed term;
- Participate in meetings and activities of the Teacher Preparation Committee (The Committee has one formal meeting at the annual convention each year. There are conference calls and e-mail on special topics.);
- Seek out and represent the concerns of other future science teachers and of NSTA student chapters and represent those concerns during Committee deliberations and in other communications with the Committee, with the Preservice Director, and with other officers and members of NSTA;
- Share information about NSTA and about the Committee with other preservice students and student chapters via the NSTA website and other media.

NSTA support. The appointee will receive four nights lodging and airfare to attend the national convention(s) she / he has agreed to attend. NSTA officers, staff, and members of the Teacher Preparation Committee will invite the appointee to participate in appropriate special events during the annual conventions and regional conventions the individual may attend during her / his term. This will include being a platform guest at one of the general sessions in each of these conventions.

The NSTA staff member responsible for supporting student chapters is the NSTA staff liaison for these annual efforts.

Selection criteria. The nominee selected will be a highly qualified prospective elementary, middle school, or high school teacher who shows promise of becoming an excellent teacher of science. The nominee will be an active leader in an NSTA student chapter, preferably nearing

the end of his/her preservice program. The nominee must agree to attend the NSTA national convention in the first year of appointment and to perform the other duties outlined in these documents. Nominations will be greatly strengthened by the presentation of plans indicating how the local chapter and / or university and / or advisor will provide support for travel and / or *appropriate and reasonable* release-time from conventional responsibilities (such as student teaching). Candidates scheduled to graduate and receive a teaching license at the end of the first spring semester within the year of the appointment are not be eligible for nomination; however candidates expecting to graduate with a license at the end of the fall semester within the year of appointment will be eligible for nomination.

Selection criteria rubric.

- Evidence the candidate understands and engages in effective science teaching (0-10)
- Evidence the candidate understands and is involved in professional development issues (0-10)
- Evidence the candidate is an effective leader in science education (0-10)
- Evidence the candidate has a rationale and plans for serving as a future teacher and student chapter representative (0-10)
- Evidence of support from the home university and community (0-5)

Nomination and selection procedure. Nominations will be solicited annually from all NSTA chapter faculty advisors during the academic year of the student's appointment. Each chapter advisor is permitted to submit one nomination. Nominators will submit the completed nomination forms directly to the address on the nomination form.

Selection of the most qualified student appointee will be the responsibility of the selection subcommittee. The Teacher Preparation Committee Chair will then forward the name of the nominee to the NSTA President for appointment.

Candidate selection sub-committee. The subcommittee will be composed of 2 members of the Teacher Preparation Committee, and an active or recent chapter advisor who has not nominated a candidate in the current year. The subcommittee will review the credentials of nominated candidates and identify the most qualified candidate. The subcommittee will also approve the candidate nomination form and the criteria to be used in the ensuing academic year.

Nomination & selection time-line.

- Information and nomination forms will be distributed no later than September 15 for nomination in the fall.
- Deadline for receipt of nomination forms at NSTA headquarters will normally be the Monday following the Thanksgiving weekend.
- The candidate selection process will normally begin at the NSTA December regional meeting, and the finalist will be selected by December 15.
- The President-elect will be notified immediately following selection, and the candidate and nominator will be notified no later than January 15.

THANK YOU FOR HELPING US WITH THIS IMPORTANT NSTA ACTIVITY TO SUPPORT EXCELLENCE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF FUTURE SCIENCE TEACHERS!