

**Minutes of the 7th Meeting of the  
National Congress on Science Education  
Toronto, Canada  
July 20-22, 2006**

- Call to Order -** The meeting was called to order by NSTA Retiring President, Mike Padilla at 8:46 a.m. on Thursday, July 20, 2006.
- Report of the Credentialing Committee** Michael Padilla, NSTA President, reported the following information regarding the 2006 NCSE attendees:  
Chapter Delegates -31  
Associated Group Delegates - 7  
Chapter Alternates -18  
Associated Group Alternates -1  
Total # of Attendees – 123
- Adoption of Operating Policies** The Congress reviews the operating policies and makes recommendations for revisions.
- 7/06CNG1** Moved by Elizabeth Peterson that the Congress planning committee shall consist of four (4) Chapter and Associated Group representatives, three (3) committee members and one (1) Alternate, all of whom shall be elected by the previous Year's Congress. The alternate will become an active member of the Congress Planning Committee at such time that a member of the committee is unable to fulfill their responsibility. **Passed.**
- Adoption of Agenda** The agenda was approved as presented.
- Approval of Minutes** The minutes of the August, 2005 Congress were reviewed and approved as submitted.
- Request for Additional Focus Groups** There were no request for additional focus groups. Following are the 2006 focus groups:
- Focus Group Resolutions** The following resolutions arose from the focus groups:
- International Global*  
International Outreach and Teaching for Global Understanding  
Leader - Laura Rutledge
- Student Learning*  
English Language Learner and Special Needs Learners  
Leader - Almetta Hall
- Teachers of Science*  
Professional Development and Pre-service

Leaders - Mary McDougall & Sue Whitsett

*Partnerships in the Science Community*

General public, families, Informal Science, Scientists, Engineers, Industry

Leader - Jean Tushie

*Science Advocacy*

Political Action and Outreach

Leader - Kenn Heydrick

***Proposed by the International Global Focus Group***

**7/06CNG2** Be it resolved that Congress recommends that the NSTA International Advisory Board create, maintain and publicize a collection of resources and opportunities (such as GLOBE, SAW [Science Across the World], Fulbright Scholarships, international student and teacher internships, and science organizations, etc) for CAGs and educators to use in order to develop international partnerships. **Passed**

**7/06CNG3** Be it resolved that Congress recommends that CAGS, participate in one international outreach efforts and share the experience with the science education community through publications, conferences and/or other NSTA venues. Be it further resolved that NSTA District Directors support CAGs in this effort. **Passed**

**7/06CNG4** Be it resolved that, because of the urgent need, Congress recommends that CAGs shall utilize outreach tools provided by the International Focus Group to launch a grass roots effort that promotes a global perspective within STEM education. **Passed**

***Proposed by the Student Learning Focus Group***

**7/06CNG5** Whereas, NCSE recognizes and distinguishes between Students with disabilities and English Language Learners;

Be it resolved that the NCSE advocates will support of science-teaching practices inclusive of and directed to English Language Learners. Examples of such support may include but are not limited to:

1. Advocate conference Strand focused on: Literacy and ELD – English Language Development, Through Science. (PDIs – run by NSTA)
2. Encourage NSTA /CAGs to develop partnerships with Reading and Literacy Associations.
3. NSTA endorse research of ELD in Science
4. Actively seek out and have represented at conferences: Vendors/Publishers and presenters to represent ELD in science.
5. Establish link from NSTA to Reading Associations and vice versa.
6. Establish a list serve for ELD on NSTA website.
7. Develop an affiliation with NABE (National Association of Bilingual Educators).
8. Designate a scholarship amount or scholarships for science teachers with ELL to attend conferences. **Passed**

- 7/06CNG6** Be it resolved that NSTA will develop a position statement addressing English Language Learners in Science. **Passed**
- 7/06CNG7** Be it resolved that CAGS of NSTA review NSTA's position statement on students with disabilities and examine what they can do to advocate the visions and declarations in the statement and how to provide professional development and support to teachers in teaching science to students with disabilities. **Passed**

*Proposed by the Teachers of Science Focus Group*

- 7/06CNG8** Be it resolved that NSTA conduct a survey to be disseminated to CAAGS of each Chapter, Associated Group and Affiliate to identify professional development strategies utilized by each and identify examples of cooperative efforts between CAAGS and other entities. With the results disseminated to CAAGS. **Passed**
- 7/06CNG9** Be it resolved that NSTA partner with CAGS to establish procedures that facilitate the development of state board policies and state legislation advocating for quality professional development for K–12 science teachers. **Passed**
- 7/06CNG10** Be it resolved that Congress recommends that NSTA include the POD and VOD casting be included in the e-PD Portal. **Passed**
- 7/06CNG11** Be it resolved that NSTA conduct a national survey of teachers of science (P - 12) to identify their professional development needs. **Passed**
- 7/06CNG12** Be it resolved that NCSE recommends that NSTA support development of a virtual (web-based) repository of scientific-based research related to best practices in science education. **Passed**

*Proposed by the Partnerships in the Science Community Focus Group*

- 7/06CNG13** Be it resolved that CAGS will be asked to identify and submit examples of successful partnerships to NSTA for dissemination through the use of a common form. **Passed**
- 7/06CNG14** Be it resolved that the National Congress on Science Education provide a workshop at the 2007 meeting, which addresses the creation and maintenance for successful partnerships. **Passed**

*Proposed by the Science Advocacy Focus Group*

- 7/06CNG15** Be it resolved that the National Congress on Science Education endorses the recent legislation, Science Accountability Act (H.R. 5442), by Representative Vernon Ehlers and that Chapters and Associated Groups be encouraged to join in endorsing this legislation. **Passed**
- 7/06CNG16** Be it resolved the National Congress on Science Education advocates the formation of a communication clearinghouse of legislative correspondence at NSTA for assisting state level organizations in communications with their state legislative groups and boards of education in all matters regarding science education. **Passed**

**7/06CNG17** Be it resolved that the National Congress on Science Education endorses and supports the NSTA efforts pertaining to the concept of a national public awareness campaign about the urgent need to promote science education, to be supported by statistical profiles of current economic trends and the necessity to increase the level of our national science literacy. **Passed**

**2007 Planning Committee**

The following individuals were elected to serve on the 2007 Congress Planning Committee:

**Congress**

- 1) Donna Daly, TN (ASMC)
- 2) Adrienne Elder, OK (OSTA)
- 3) James Redmond, (HaSTA)

**Council**

- 1) Jack Wheatley, District VI Director
- 2) Vanessa Westbrook, District XIII Director
- 3) Christine Royce, District IV Director

Alternates:

- 4) Heidi Kellar, OR (OSTA)
- 4) Mary Lightbody, District X Director ()

**Summary Session**

The Congress resolutions were discussed by both the Council and Board of Directors. Following are the resolutions with the final wording as passed/defeated by the Board:

**7/06BOD3** Moved by Bobby Jeanpierre in response to 7/06CCL4 and 7/06CNG2 that the NSTA International Advisory Board create, maintain and publicize a collection of resources and opportunities (such as GLOBE, SAW [Science Across the World], Fulbright Scholarships, international student and teacher internships, and science organizations, etc) for CAGs and educators to use in order to develop international partnerships. **Motion carried**

**7/06BOD4** Moved by Steve Long in response to 7/06CCL5 and 7/06CNG5 that the NCSE advocates support of science-teaching practices inclusive of and directed to English Language Learners. Examples of such support may include but are not limited to:

1. Advocate conference Strand focused on: Literacy and ELD – English Language Development, Through Science. (PDIs – run by NSTA)
2. Encourage NSTA /CAGs to develop partnerships with Reading and Literacy Associations.
3. NSTA endorse research of ELD in Science
4. Actively seek out and have represented at conferences: Vendors/Publishers and presenters to represent ELD in science.
5. Establish link from NSTA to Reading Associations and vice versa.
6. Establish a list serve for ELD on NSTA website.
7. Develop an affiliation with NABE (National Association of Bilingual Educators).
8. Designate a scholarship amount or scholarships for science teachers with ELL to attend conferences. **Motion carried**

**7/06BOD5** Moved by Steve Long in response to 7/06CCL6 and 7/06CNG6 that NSTA will develop a position statement addressing English Language Learners in Science. **Motion carried**

**7/06BOD6** Moved by Susan German in response to 7/06CCL7 and 7/06CNG8 that NSTA conduct a survey of each Chapter, Associated Group, and Affiliate to identify professional development activities utilized by each and identify examples of cooperative efforts between CAAGS and other entities with the results to be disseminated to CAAGS. **Motion defeated**

**7/06BOD7**Moved by Susan German in response to 7/06CCL9 and 7/06CNG16 that NSTA staff study the feasibility of forming a communication clearinghouse of legislative correspondence at NSTA for assisting state level organizations in communications with their state legislative groups and boards of education in all matters regarding science education. **Motion carried**

**7/06BOD8**Moved by Alex Azima in response to 7/06CCL11 and 7/06CNG10 that NSTA include POD and VOD casting in the e-PD Portal. **Motion defeated**

**7/06BOD9**Moved by Steve Long in response to 7/06CCL14 and 7/06CNG13 that CAGS will be asked to identify and submit examples of successful partnerships to NSTA for dissemination through the use of a common form. **Motion defeated**

**Adjourn** The 2006 Congress adjourned at 1:00pm on Saturday, July 22, 2006