

**Minutes of the 7th Meeting of the
National Congress on Science Education
San Antonio, TX
July 19-22, 2007**

- Call to Order -** The meeting was called to order by NSTA President, John Whitsett at 8:46 a.m. on Thursday, July 19, 2007.
- Report of the Credentialing Committee** John Whitsett, NSTA President, reported the following information regarding the 2007 NCSE attendees:
Chapter Delegates -39
Associated Group Delegates - 6
Chapter Alternates -22
Associated Group Alternates -3
Staff - 9
Total # of Attendees – 127
- Adoption of Operating Policies** The there were no revisions to the operating policies and they were approved as written.
- Adoption of Agenda** The agenda was approved as presented.
- Approval of Minutes** The minutes of the August, 2006 Congress were reviewed and approved as submitted.
- Requests for Additional Focus Groups** There were no requests for additional focus groups. Following are the 2007 focus groups:
- Focus Group #1 Implementing 21st Century Learning Skills
Leader – Marilyn Richardson; Co- Facilitator -Mary Lightbody & Sue Whitsett
- Focus Group #2 Retaining and Renewing Teachers of Science
Leaders – Heidi Kellar; Co-facilitators - Jack Wheatley & Mary McDougall
- Focus Group #3 Anchoring Science Content in the National Standards
Leader – Adrienne Elder; Co-facilitators – Linda Schott
- Focus Group #4 Analyzing Data to Design Research Based Instruction
Leader – Don Kline; Facilitator – Christine Royce
- Focus Group #5 Developing Student STEM Skills and Attributes
Leader – Jim Redmond; Facilitator – Vanessa Westbrook

**Focus Group
Resolutions**

The following resolutions arose from the focus groups:

Proposed By the Hoosier Association of Science Teachers

- 7/07CNG1** Be it resolved that the National Congress on Science Education issue a commendation to Edward L Frazier in appreciation for his service to the National Science Teachers Association from 1980 to 2007; the Hoosier Association of Science Teachers, Inc. (HASTI) from 1969 to present; and the Indiana Academy of Science (ISA) from 1989 to present. He has dedicated his life to the profession of science education and is a charter member of HASTI. Passed Unanimously

Focus Group 1 - Implementing 21st Century Learning Skills

- 7/07CNG2** Be it resolved that the 2007 National Congress on Science Education highly recommends that decisions regarding the use of technology in the 21st century global learning environment be made with significant input from classroom teachers. Passed
- 7/07CNG3** Be it resolved that the 2007 National Congress on Science Education encourages the Chapters and Associated Groups of NSTA to advocate greater acceptance and increased use of 21st century technologies and skill sets in the classroom by promoting the framework from Partnership for 21st Century Skills. Passed
- 7/07CNG4** Be it resolved that the 2007 National Congress on Science Education encourages CAAGS to continue to promote high quality professional development opportunities that support pedagogy appropriate for the 21st century student such as conference strands, peer reviewed articles, and other professional development opportunities at the local, state, regional, and national conferences. Passed
- 7/07CNG5** Be it resolved that when NSTA revises the position statement on the use of computers in science education they will consider incorporating 21st Century Skills (as outlined in the Partnership for 21st Century Skills). Passed
- 7/07CNG6** Be it resolved that the National Congress on Science Education encourages the Chapters and Associated Groups to include all stakeholders in the development of state assessment instruments to include performance based technology skills as outlined by the Partnership for 21st Century skills. Passed
- 7/07CNG7** Be it resolved that the National Congress on Science Education encourages Chapters and Associated Groups to promote the existing opportunity to participate in the current NSTA technology education list-serve or future technology vehicle(s) that focus on technology use, ideas, solutions, collaborative projects and technology integration. Passed Unanimously
- 7/07CNG8** Be it resolved that the National Congress on Science Education encourages NSTA to initiate conversations and workshops on 21st Century skills at future NSTA Congresses and conferences. Passed

FOCUS GROUP 2 - RETAINING AND RENEWING TEACHERS OF SCIENCE

- 7/07CNG9** Be it resolved that the Congress on Science Education recommends that NSTA consider directing the Committee on Research to compile a series of talking points based on research data on the retention of teachers of science. Passed Unanimously

Focus Group 3 - Anchoring Science Standards in the 21st Century

- 7/07CNG10** Be it resolved that the 2007 National Congress on Science Education (NCSE) supports NSTA in taking a lead role in developing national Science Anchors considering Content and Skills, Language and Interpretation, and Stakeholder Issues. Passed Unanimously
- 7/07CNG11** Be it resolved that the 2007 NCSE requests that NSTA articulates and disseminates to CAGs (Chapters and Associated Groups) and the AoA (Association of Affiliates) ongoing information about the development and progress of Science Anchors, including a definition and purpose. Passed Unanimously
- 7/07CNG12** Be it resolved that the 2007 NCSE requests NSTA consider the NAEP 2009 Frameworks in the development of the Science Anchors. Passed

Focus Group 4 - Analyzing Data to Design Research Based Instruction

- 7/07CNG13** Be it resolved that NCSE support grades 3 through 8 annual science testing for at least one complete testing cycle. Passed
- 7/07CNG14** Be it resolved the NCSE requests an update of the status for: 7/04CNG19, 8/05CNG25, 8/05CNG26. Passed
- 7/07CNG15** Be it resolved that NCSE supports the idea that reporting of educational research be presented in a format which allows for the implementation and application of research by teachers of science. Passed

Focus Group 5 - Developing Student STEM Skills and Attributes

- 7/07CNG16** Be it resolved that STEM education must become a central part of a student's education. STEM education embeds science, technology, engineering, and mathematics into all educational opportunities. Passed
- 7/07CNG17** Be it resolved that the National Congress on Science Education requests that NSTA consider the feasibility of giving the highest priority to revising and updating the Position Statement "Science/Technology/Society: A New Effort For Providing Appropriate Science For All (July, 1990) so that it reflects the current focus on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM). Passed Unanimously
- 7/07CNG18** Be it resolved that the National Congress on Science Education encourages chapters and associated groups to communicate STEM initiatives and information on their websites and other types of media. Passed Unanimously

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

Congress

Council

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|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1) Ruth Ruud | 5) Jim Short |
| 2) Gail Sinukle | 6) Laura Rutledge |
| 3) Julie Taylor | 7) Jim Puckett |
| 4) Ross Dinwiddie (alternate) | 8) Mary Lightbody (alternate) |

**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:

7/07BOD3 Moved by Susan German in response to 7/07CCL3 and 7/07CNG5 that when the position statement on the use of computers in science education is revised, consideration be given to incorporating 21st Century Skills (as outlined in the Partnership for 21st Century Skills). **Motion carried unanimously.**

7/07BOD4 Moved by Susan German in response to 7/07CCL4 and 7/07CNG8 that NSTA initiate conversations and workshops on 21st Century skills at future NSTA Congresses and conferences. **Motion carried unanimously.**

7/07BOD5 Moved by Susan German in response to 7/07CCL5 and 7/07CNG9 that NSTA direct the Committee on Research to compile a series of talking points based on research data on the retention of teachers of science. **Motion carried unanimously.**

7/07BOD6 Moved by Gwen Pollock in response to 7/07CCL6 and 7/07CNG11 that NSTA articulates and disseminates to the Chapters and Associated Groups (CAGs) and the Alliance of Affiliates (AoA) ongoing information about the development and progress of Science Anchors, including a definition and purpose. **Motion carried unanimously.**

7/07BOD7 Moved by Linda Froschauer in response to 7/07CCL7 and 7/07CNG12 that NSTA consider the NAEP 2009 Frameworks in the development of the Science Anchors. **Motion carried unanimously.**

7/07BOD8 Moved by Susan German in response to 7/07CCL8 and 7/07CNG14 to instruct staff to provide an update of 7/04CNG19, 8/05CNG25, 8/05CNG26 to CAGS. **Motion carried unanimously.**

7/07BOD9 Moved Susan German in response to 7/07CCL9 and 7/07CNG17 that the NSTA President form a task force to compile and disseminate talking points that articulate the current progress of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) education reform initiatives from the science perspective. **Motion carried.**

Adjourn

The 2007 Congress adjourned at 12:50pm on Saturday, July 21, 2007