



LOUISIANA SCIENCE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

SUMMER 2007

President's Message from Norma Guillory



CHRISTMAS IN AUGUST!!!

This issue of the FOCUS contains everything you need to ensure that you will be included in *Science: Pathways to Learning*, the LSTA 2007 Institute November 1-3! The Institute registration forms, Thursday's short-course/field trip descriptions and registration form, hotel information, travel grant application, award information and nomination forms are ready for you to submit. You will find that the short courses offer a wide range of engaging learning opportunities for all levels of science educators, as will the workshop sessions.

REGISTER EARLY and be sure to include attending the Awards Banquet! Don't miss out on an evening of fun and camaraderie with Keynote Michael DiSpezio and a visit with the NSTA President John Whitsett. There will still be time for a night on the town afterwards! Michael, nationally known science author and motivational speaker, is a gifted presenter—and someone you don't want to miss! You'll also be the first to congratulate those who are receiving the coveted LSTA awards! (Have you turned in your nominations?)

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE! A round of applause for those who contacted their superintendents, BESE board members and others about the projected conflict with the dates of the 2009 NSTA in New Orleans! Your hard work paid off! With the assistance of the Department of Education in presenting a new testing configuration and a recommendation from the Superintendent's committee, BESE approved a testing schedule that will avoid direct conflict with the NSTA conference. It will soon be time to gear up and prepare for NSTA in 2009!

I hope to see everyone at *Science: Pathways to Learning*! The 2007 Science Institute Committee is working hard to prepare an event you won't want to miss.

Sincerely,

Norma Guillory



This year's Awards Banquet Keynote Presenter Michael DiSpezio. Michael was scheduled to be our guest for the 2005 Science Institute that was cancelled following Katrina and Rita. He is well known to Louisiana science educators through his work as the on camera moderator and point person for the JASON Expedition: Louisiana's Disappearing Wetlands and as the facilitator for the LPB EnviroTacklebox episode on Decisions Based on Science.

Michael is the co-author of several science textbooks and has written dozens of trade books on topics ranging from optical illusions to critical thinking puzzles. He often incorporates critical thinking activities into his presentations.

With his engaging style and high energy delivery you won't want to miss his presentation!

LSTA Board and Regional Representatives

Members of the LSTA Executive Board

Norma Guillory President Norma.Guillory@cpsb.org	Jean May-Brett NSTA Liaison/BaP Coordinator jean.may-brett@la.gov	Debra Carroll Region 4 Representative debracarroll@bellsouth.net
Paul Johnson Past President/Membership pjohnson@tpsd.org	Pateece Davis Exhibit Co-Chair Gpdavis-hardy@caddo.k12.la.us	Kathleen Nichols Region 5 Representative knichols@beau.k12.la.us
Charlotte Bihm Vice President Crb3739@slp.k12.la.us	Dru Foret Administrative Assistant dforet@tpsd.org	Michelle Brand-Buchanan Region 6 Representative buchananm@rapides.k12.la.us
Wendy DeMers Secretary Ydnew2@earthlink.net	LSTA Web Master Andrea Walker Andrealwalker1@cox.net	Terrie Johnson Region 7 Representative Terrie.Johnson@bossierschools.org
Faimon Roberts Treasurer froberts35@cox.net	Jennifer Williams Region 1 Representative Jwilliams@newmanschool.org	Shavonne Gardner-Price Region 8 Representative sprice9455@aol.com
Jan Graff Awards Coordinator jlgraff@bellsouth.net	Unfilled Region 2 Representative	Ann Wilson La Science Program Coordinator ann.wilson@la.gov
Brenda Nixon Special Projects Coordinator bnixon@lsu.edu	Shannon Lafont Region 3 Representative slafont@lafourche.k12.la.us	LASER Editor Jessica Schexnayder jsche15@lsu.edu

Grant Opportunity

QSM Great Grant Opportunity!

Apply for a Quality Science and Math (QSM) grant to enhance your math or science classroom! If you are a teacher in a "regular classroom" in a Louisiana public school, you are eligible for up to \$750 in funding for materials. Check out the website www.cain.lsu.edu and then click on QSM. You may also print out pdf files of the application and the scoring rubric to guide you through your application. The deadline for applications is Friday, Sept 7, 2007. You may contact the Cain Center at caincenter@lsu.edu or 225-578-3322 if you have any questions.



REMINDER! Next LASER Deadline, Saturday, September 1!
Contact your Regional Representative with your good news!



Louisiana Science Teachers Association

Science: "Pathways to Learning"

Hilton and Acadiana Hotels, Lafayette, Louisiana

November 1-3, 2007

Concurrent Session Presentation Form (Friday and Saturday, November 2-3, 2007)

Please type or print:

Lead Presenter Name _____ Agency/School _____

_____ Preferred Mailing Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

(____) _____ (____) _____ (____) _____

Work Phone

Home Phone

Fax

* E-mail

*An e-mail address is required.

Co-Presenter(s) Names and Contact Data (Attach a separate sheet to this form and include the above information for each person).

Co-Presenters are listed on a separate page: ___ Yes ___ No

Session Title _____

Description (30 words or less) _____

Check all that apply:

Session Type
<input type="checkbox"/> Hands-on
<input type="checkbox"/> Demonstration
<input type="checkbox"/> Meeting
<input type="checkbox"/> Exemplary Program

Intended Audience	
<input type="checkbox"/> Early Childhood	<input type="checkbox"/> High
<input type="checkbox"/> Elementary	<input type="checkbox"/> General
<input type="checkbox"/> Middle	<input type="checkbox"/> Administrative

Preferred Day	Time
<input type="checkbox"/> Friday	<input type="checkbox"/> AM
	<input type="checkbox"/> PM
<input type="checkbox"/> Saturday	<input type="checkbox"/> AM
Preferred Participant Number	
<input type="checkbox"/> Up to 30	<input type="checkbox"/> Up to 50

As we work to prepare a balanced program we cannot promise to meet all requests.

Focus Discipline (Check no more than two.)	Cross Curricular:
<input type="checkbox"/> Science as Inquiry	<input type="checkbox"/> Physics
<input type="checkbox"/> Environmental	<input type="checkbox"/> Earth/Space
<input type="checkbox"/> Life	<input type="checkbox"/> Chemistry
	<input type="checkbox"/> Science/Reading
	<input type="checkbox"/> Science/Math
	<input type="checkbox"/> Science/Social Studies

AV Equipment/Room
Location (access to water, etc.) will be considered, although not guaranteed. A notification will be sent.
Check here if requesting an overhead projector. _____
All other AV equipment is the responsibility of the presenters.

All presenters are required to register for the Louisiana Science Teachers Association Institute.

Mail or Email form by August 15, 2007:

Debra Carroll

701 Ildewood Blvd.

Lafayette, LA 70506

debracarroll@bellsouth.net

Thanks for supporting the 2007 LSTA Science Institute! It can't happen without YOU!

Awards Program 2007

Each year, the Louisiana Science Teachers' Association recognizes outstanding formal and informal science educators. The following honors will be presented in Lafayette at the LSTA Awards Banquet during the annual professional development. In addition to receiving recognition and a one-year membership to LSTA, winners will receive gift certificates or cash.

The William Craig Outstanding University Educator Award
\$100 gift certificate

The Outstanding Elementary Science Teacher of the Year Award
\$400 cash

The Outstanding Middle Science Teacher of the Year Award
\$400 cash

The Outstanding Secondary Science Teacher of the Year Award
\$400 cash

The Essie Beck "Rising Star" Science Education Award
\$400 cash

The Distinguished Informal Science Education Award
\$100 gift certificate

The Distinguished Service to Science Education Award
\$100 gift certificate

LSTA Travel Grant (up to 10 awarded)
\$300 cash

Be an LSTA Award winning educator!
Complete your application packet today. For more information and application forms
visit the LSTA website at www.lsta.info or contact:

Jan Graff, Awards Coordinator
10111 Norris Ferry Rd
Shreveport, LA 71106
jlgraff@bellsouth.net

Award applications must be postmarked by September 15, 2007.



Louisiana Science Teachers Association

Registration Form

Science: Pathways to Learning

LSTA Professional Development Institute
Lafayette, Louisiana
November 1-3, 2007



Louisiana Science Teachers Association

First Name _____

Last Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

E-mail Address _____

*****All science registration confirmations will be by email.**

Faxed registration forms will not be accepted. Registration fees must be enclosed.

School Name _____

Grade Level Preschool-(Below 1st) Elementary-(1st-4th) Middle-(5th-8th) High-(9th-12th) College Other

Parish _____

Agency / Program _____

Contact Phone _____

Note: Please complete all the above information.

The LASER mailing list will be generated from the information you provide.

Registration Fees:

Short Course Fee (3 Hours)	\$10.00	
Short Course Fee (6 Hours)	\$20.00	
Pre-Registration (Postmarked by September 21, 2007)	\$50.00	
Early Bird Registration (Postmarked by October 12, 2007)	\$60.00	
Regular Registration (Postmarked After October 12, 2007)	\$75.00	
Full-Time Undergraduate Student	\$25.00	
Banquet Fee	\$25.00	
Saturday Only Pre-Registration (Postmarked by Sept. 21, 2007)	\$20.00	
Saturday Only Early Registration (Postmarked by Oct. 12, 2007)	\$25.00	
Saturday Only Regular Reg. (Postmarked After Oct. 12, 2007)	\$30.00	
Total		
Please state what special assistance you may need to attend. Request for assistance must be received by Oct. 20, 2007.		

Make checks payable to: LSTA Professional Development Institute 2007
Mail to: Paul Johnson, P. O. Box 5097, Houma, LA 70361

**Exhibits are open Thursday, Nov. 1, 2007, from 5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m., and Friday, Nov. 2, 2007, from 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.,
No Exhibits Saturday, Nov. 3, 2007**

**LSTA Professional Development Institute 2007
 Science: Pathways to Learning
 Short Course Registration Form
 Lafayette, Louisiana
 November 1, 2007**



Last Name _____ First Name _____
 Address _____ City _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____ E-mail* _____
 (*Email address required. Confirmations for short course registration will be emailed.)

Short Course Registration Fees

\$10.00 per 3-Hour Session \$20.00 per 6-Hour Session
Short Course Participants MUST Register for the Science Institute

ENCLOSE THIS FORM WITH YOUR INSTITUTE REGISTRATION AND CHECK.

Please indicate your short course(s) preferences below. Every effort will be made to honor your first choice. Register early to improve the chances of securing your first choice. There is a 20 person maximum for some short courses. Short courses must have at least ten participants to be held.

	1 st Choice	2 nd Choice	3 rd Choice
Short Course Number(s) (AM-3hr)	_____	_____	_____
Short Course Number(s) (PM-3hr)	_____	_____	_____
Short Course Number(s) (6 hr)	_____	_____	_____

Thursday LASL Short Course and Meeting _____
NOTE: There is no fee for the LASL Meeting but participants must be members.

Make checks payable to: **LSTA 2007 Science Institute**
 Mail to: **Paul Johnson, P.O. Box 5097, Houma, LA 70361**

Exhibits Open
 Thursday, 5:00 p.m. — 8:30 p.m.
 Friday, 8:00 a.m. — 4:00 p.m.
 Saturday, exhibits closed.

REGISTRATION FOR SHORT COURSES MUST BE RECEIVED BY
October 12 , 2007

Thursday Short Courses!

Registration for Short Course sessions is separate from the regular Science Institute registration. There is a \$10 charge for each three-hour short course/field trip selection. Pre-registration is required. Please use the short course registration form provided in this publication and identify your selection by its corresponding number.

As you register list your selections as first, second, and third choice for each time period on the Short Course Registration Form. Participants can choose to register for one full day short course, one AM session, one PM session, or one session in the AM and one in the PM. When a session is filled registrants will be assigned to another choice from their list. So please submit your registration forms quickly to secure positions in your first choice slots. Some sessions are limited by space and equipment.

All participants are responsible for their transportation to and from offsite sessions. Some offsite sessions will meet at a central location before departing to the course location so that participants might carpool. Offsite location and information will be emailed directly to participants by the presenter(s).

Note: There will be a LASL Meeting on Thursday afternoon for all LASL members.

KEY: Audiences: G/General; E/Elementary; M/Middle; H/High

All Day Short Course Sessions (6-Hours)

8:30 AM – 3:30 PM

1. *Getting Down and Dirty With Louisiana Wetlands*

Presenters: Christy Flynn, Melanie Dupre'

Come and attend an exciting, hands-on workshop that will provide resources and lessons on Louisiana Wetlands. You won't walk away empty-handed from this BTNEP sponsored workshop! The workshop will be held at the USGS National Wetland Research Center in Lafayette.

Hands-on **E** **SI/Env**

Special Note: This course will be held offsite.

2. *Click Happy!*

Presenter: Michelle Blanchard, Michelle Morvant, Sharon Serigny

Lower Elementary teachers will be active participants in creating PowerPoints to enhance lessons in the Comprehensive Curriculum. Step-by-step demonstration in creating ready-to-use informative and interactive lessons. USB saving device recommended to save and share; personal laptops welcome.

Hands-On **E** **Science/Math**

Special Note: This course will be held offsite at the Lafayette Parish School Board Office.

3. *Exploring the World: an Introduction to Earth Caching*

Presenters: Paul Nagel

This hands-on field trip utilizes basic Earth Science and geographic knowledge in uncovering the endless opportunities for learning about the Earth. Encompassing cutting edge technology, and the thrill of discovery, EarthCaching makes learning meaningful and fun.

Hands-on/Demo **E, M, H** **Env Sc/SocSt**

Special Note: This course will be held offsite.

Thursday Morning Short Courses

8:30 – 11:30 AM

4. *Multimedia Resources for Teaching Physical Science*

Presenter: Mike Rabourn

Participants will receive 2 CD-ROMs with multimedia resources for teaching the chemistry and physics found in the 9th grade physical science course. Power Point, Inspiration and virtual experiment templates are included.

Hands-on **H** **SI**

Special Note: This course will be held offsite at the Lafayette School Board Office Building

5. *Race into Physics with the CPO Energy Car*

Presenters: Dr. Scott Vetter, Sally Dudley
Participants will explore the concepts of velocity, acceleration and more with exciting equipment modules: Friction and momentum are made simple. Equipment Raffle.

Hands-on **M, H** **SI/Physics**

6. *Aquatic Invasive Species*

Presenters: Dianne Lindstedt
Learn about invasive species, sample hands-on activities for all ages and use an interactive website for students. Earn a follow-up stipend for completing a community service/stewardship project with your class. Door prizes!

Hands-on **M, G** **Env**

7. *The Science Behind the Study of Louisiana's Wetlands*

Presenter: Susan Horton, Heidi Hitter
Visit the National Wetland Research Center for a tour, a wetland presentation and learn about free educational resources from US Fish & Wildlife, NOAA, NRCS, USGS, and CWPPRA

Demonstration **E, M** **Env/Soc. St.**

Special Note: This course will be held offsite.

8. *Louisiana Birding Field Trip*

Presenter: Richard DeMay, Clint Jeske
Join Richard, BTNEP Senior Scientist, and Clint, USGS/NWRC Ornithologist, for a great birding field trip. You will travel to Lake Fosse Point to learn to identify a variety of bird species. Enjoy a day in the field and get associated birding lesson plans

Hands-On **G** **SI/Env/Life**

Special Note: Part of this course will be held offsite.

9. *Living with a Star -From Sunscreen to Space Weather*

Presenter: Gayle Glusman, Brenda Nixon
Unveil our dynamic relationship with the Sun through a space-weather mystery, a mock mission from Earth's atmosphere to outer space, ultraviolet experiments, and more. This GEMS unit focuses on the impact of electromagnetic energy and solar particles on Earth.

Hands-On **E, M** **SI/Physics/E&Sp/Math**

10. *Nature Station Environmental Education Programs*

Presenter: Stacey Scarce
The Acadiana Park Nature Station and Trails is a facility dedicated to reacclimatizing humans to their natural surroundings through environmental education. In this field trip to the Nature Station, participants will take part in our 4th grade program and in a typical young naturalist club meeting. We will make observations in our bottomland hardwood forest, discuss biodiversity and stewardship.

Special Note: This course will be held offsite at the Acadiana Park Nature Station.

11. *Weather Analysis and Forecasting*

Presenter: Mark Frazier
This unit developed by the National Weather Service, explores how to analyze weather maps and predict future weather conditions including hands on activities.

Demonstration **E, M, H** **Earth & Space**

Thursday Afternoon Short Courses

12:30 – 3:30 PM

12. *Organ & Tissue Education*

Presenters: Lana Stevens
Education on organ and tissue donation and transplantation. Activities and curriculum to use in the classroom for all age groups!

Hands-on **G** **SI/Life**

13. *“Turning Maniacs into Brainiacs” Using Brain-based Research to Create an Optimum Learning Environments”*

Presenter: Kathy Brandon
Enhance students' attention and retention through dynamic yet simple brain-compatible strategies that really work! Focus on classroom structure, management, effective presentations, student self-awareness, and peripheral factors. Practical-classroom tested.

Hands-on/Demo/Exem Prog **G** **Science/Math**

14. *NASA's Vision for Space Exploration Starts in the Classroom*

Presenter: William O. Robertson

NASA's Vision for Space Exploration is the goal of returning America to Moon, Mars and beyond. Activities aligned to education standards are presented which are used to motivate students' interest in STEM-G.

Demonstration E Earth & Space/Math

15. *Explore Your World with Scope-On-A-Rope*

Presenters: Adrienne Lopez

Scope-On-A-Rope is a wonderful tool for all ages and ability levels. Participants get hands-on experience using SOAR and activities correlated to the curriculum. Participants will be certified to borrow SOAR.

Hands-on E SI/Life

16. *LA Envirothon 2008*

Presenters: Karen Fisher-Brasher, Colette Anzalone
This session will introduce participants to the LE 2008 program and explain how they can become involved in the learning opportunity with their students. Station exercises will explore aquatics, wildlife, forestry, energy conservation and soils.

Hands-on/Demo H Env

Special Note: Part of this course will be held offsite at the Cade facility of ULL.

17. *Chemistry and the Atom: Fun with the Atom Building Game*

Presenters: Dr. Scott Vetter, Sally Dudley

Participants will explore atomic structure while playing 3 games with the CPO Atom Building Game. Equipment Raffle.

Hands-on M, H Physics/Chemistry

18. *Crazy Traits*

Presenter: Kat Woodring, Sally Dudley

This workshop will explore the abstract concept of genetics using the new CPO Crazy Traits. Equipment Raffle.

Hands-on M, H Life/Math

19. *Spirit of the Estuary-Integrating Art and Ecology*

Presenter: Sue Ellen Lyons

Spirit of the Estuary uses the visual arts, dramatic arts, and technology to challenge the analytic, creative and practical skills of students while increasing public perception of significant environmental issues.

Hands-on M, H Env

20. *Introduction to Satellite Imagery*

Presenter: Dianne Lindstedt

Learn about types of satellite imagery available, where to find them and how to interpret images and compare the Gulf of Mexico and the Gulf of Maine with your students

Hands-On M, H Env/Earth& Space

Special Note: This course will be held offsite.

21. *Ocean Science Education Excellence...In Your Classroom*

Presenters: Dr. Jessica Kastler and COSEE Participants

LUMCON COSEE Institute participants share what they learned about ocean science content & processes, and how science is accomplished by modeling techniques they developed to make their students ocean literate. Join us to learn how you can use ocean science to address the GLEs.

Hands-On/Exem Prog E, M, H SI/Science/Math

LASL Workshop/Business Meeting

Presenter: Claudia Fowler

This workshop invites all members of the Louisiana Association of Science Leaders and interested science supervisors and specialists to attend this annual workshop. Come and learn more about the comprehensive curriculum and the state literacy initiative. Paul Johnson, LSTA Past President, will share information on LSTA's Safety Program. NSTA President John Whittett is scheduled to join us.

Meeting G

Note: To register to attend the LASL meeting contact Claudia Fowler, LASL President, lapelican@cox.net . Please indicate LASL in the subject line of your email.

Election Time - LSTA OFFICERS AND REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

The slate of officers and regional representatives on the back of this page have been nominated to serve during the upcoming two-year appointment that begins at our Annual Awards Banquet November 2. Please VOTE for your choice!

All you need to do is remove this page from your LASER, select your candidates/nominate new candidates, fold over so that the address below is visible, and staple or tape the edges together.
Add your return address and a stamp and mail by October 1, 2007 !

All members may vote for the offices of President, Vice-President and Secretary. For the position of Regional Representative each LSTA member should vote for a candidate to represent the region where they receive their LSTA LASER.

Remember, if you have additional candidates you wish to nominate, please first check with the person to confirm membership in LSTA and a commitment to fulfill the responsibilities of the office. Then add their names to the ballot. Remove or black out your label so that your ballot is anonymous.

THANKS TO EVERYONE FOR TAKING THE TIME TO VOTE!

Paul Johnson,
Nominations Chair

Return Address:

Postage Needed

Paul Johnson
LSTA Election Chair
Terrebonne Parish School Board
P.O. Box 5097
Houma, LA 70361

ELECTION BALLOT FOR LSTA OFFICERS AND REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

FOLD, STAPLE, STAMP AND MAIL YOUR BALLOT BY OCTOBER 1, 2007!

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>YES</u>
President	Charlotte Bihm	_____
Nomination	_____	_____
Vice-President	Shannon Lafont	_____
Nomination	_____	_____
Secretary	Michelle Buchanan	_____
Nomination	_____	_____
Region I	Jennifer Williams	_____
Nomination	_____	_____
Region II	Jan Mistich	_____
Nomination	_____	_____

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>YES</u>
Region III	Cally Chauvin	_____
Nomination	_____	_____
Region IV	Debra Carroll	_____
Nomination	_____	_____
Region V	Tina Savoie	_____
Nomination	_____	_____
Region VI	Tera Robinson	_____
Nomination	_____	_____
Region VII	Terrie Johnson	_____
Nomination	_____	_____
Region VIII	Shavonne Price	_____
Nomination	_____	_____



Paul Johnson
 Terrebonne Parish School Board
 P.O. Box 5097
 Houma, LA 70361

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Inside News:

- 2007 Science Institute
- Hotel Information
- Short course descriptions
- Presidential Awards finalists