

CONNECTICUT SCIENCE CONNECTION

SEPTEMBER 4, 2007 ISSUE

THE CONNECTICUT BUILDING A PRESENCE FOR SCIENCE NETWORK IS SUSTAINED THROUGH A GRANT FROM BRISTOL-MYERS SQUIBB AND THE ADVOCACY OF THE CONNECTICUT ACADEMY FOR EDUCATION

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NAMES AND E-MAIL ADDRESSES OF OUR POINTS OF CONTACT AND KEY LEADERS ARE NOT SHARED WITH ANY OTHER ENTITY



WELCOME
BACK to another
exciting year
of teaching
and
learning!

**IF YOU HAVE CHANGED
SCHOOLS OR YOUR EMAIL
ADDRESS, PLEASE SEND AN
EMAIL TO:
CHARTSHORN@CTACAD.ORG
LISTING YOUR NEW EMAIL
AND/OR SCHOOL NAME AND IT
WILL BE UPDATED ON THE
DATABASE.**

**HIGH-PERFORMANCE
SCHOOLS IN CONNECTICUT:
A Green Building Conference
for School Building
Stakeholders:** Tuesday,
September 25, 2007 9am-noon
at Hill Regional Career High
School, 140 Legion Avenue New
Haven. **Cost:** CT Green Building
Council Members (CT GBC)
can attend at no cost. For non-
members, the cost is \$50. The
first 50 non-members who
register will receive a \$30
scholarship from the CT GBC
and only pay \$20. CT GBC
Members may register by
emailing Kim Trella at:
kim.trella@po.state.ct.us Non-
members should register at:
www.acteva.com/go/ctgbcschools
Is questions? Please make
checks payable to: CT GBC, P.O.
BOX 152 , Rocky Hill, CT 06067

Check Out the Fall Lineup for NSTA's Web Seminars

Topics for the Fall 2007 lineup of Web Seminars include human space flight, interesting science careers for students, teaching inquiry with food, engaging parents, the impact of the polar regions on Earth's climate system, nanoscale science, and the living systems of the Arctic and Antarctic.

- [NASA: Igniting the Flame of Knowledge: Human Space Flight](#) (October)
- [SRS: From Astrobiology to Zoology: Igniting Students' Interests in Science Careers](#) (October)
- [FDA: Teach Science Concepts and Inquiry with Food](#) (November)
- You may be interested in participating in a no-cost, interactive NSTA Web Seminar titled "Teaching Science Concepts and Inquiry Through Food". Hosted by scientists from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, the live seminar will focus on food microbiology (Content Standard 7.4), as well as food-borne illnesses, dietary recommendations and food labels. Registration information is available at:
 - http://learningcenter.nsta.org/products/symposia_seminars/fall07/FDA/webseminar.aspx
 - [NASA: Inquiry in Science and Mathematics Education: Parents as Partners](#) (November)
 - [IPY: The Role of Polar Regions in Earth's Changing Climate System](#) (November)
 - [NSTA Press: Nanoscale Science: Activities for Grades 6-12](#) (December)
 - [IPY: Arctic and Antarctic Living Systems](#) (December)

NORWALK MARITIME CENTER: New IMAX on the Alps! For more information, please go to: www.maritimeaquarium.org/about_press.html
The Maritime Aquarium receives support from the State of Connecticut Commission on Culture and Tourism. <http://www.maritimeaquarium.org/>



FROM THE BOSTON MUSEUM OF SCIENCE: CSI: The Experience, our new special exhibit based on the hit television series. Free viewings beginning at 3:00 p.m.; last entry is 6:00 p.m. [Educators Open House](#) | [CSI: The Experience](#) | [Register Now](#)

THIS MESSAGE FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA:

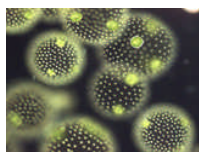
My name is Tim Slater and I am an astronomy education professor at the University of Arizona. Our team is trying to determine how teachers are using Earth and Space science images, data, and web sites in teaching. The overarching goal of the project is to figure out what things scientists can do to best support teachers. If you are a classroom teacher, we would really, REALLY appreciate you completing a very short (5 minutes maximum), online survey. The survey is completely anonymous - your responses are never associated with your name and will ask you questions about which, if any, resources you use. SURVEY LOCATION: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=kAXxqYhJa_2bnImRhgNT4SMg_3d_3d>http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=kAXxqYhJa_2bnImRhgNT4SMg_3d_3d If you need additional information, please contact us via email tslater@as.arizona.edu

AGI ANNOUNCES CONTEST THEMES FOR EARTH SCIENCE WEEK 2007: Contact: Geoff Camphire gac@agiweb.org Alexandria, VA - The American Geological Institute (AGI) is sponsoring three national contests in conjunction with Earth Science Week 2007, October 14-20 - "The Pulse of Earth Science." All U.S. residents are encouraged to enter "People Discovering Earth's Treasures" - this year's Earth Science Week photography contest. Submissions should depict an aspect of earth science as it appears in your community. Learn to look at your surroundings through a geoscientist's eyes and photograph what you discover.

Students in grades K - 5 are eligible to enter the visual arts contest, "Changing Earth." Submissions should illustrate how geologic processes are constantly changing Earth's landscape. Draw a picture, make a collage, or create another piece of two-dimensional artwork that highlights the continuous change on our planet.

The essay contest "Earth Science in My Community" is open to students in grades 6-9. Entries should be short essays of no more than 300 words explaining a unique geologic aspect of their community, discuss current earth science research in their geographic area, or indicate why it is important to study the geology of your town. For more information on these contests including information on how to enter, please go to <http://www.earthsciweek.org/>.

1st Annual State-wide Smart Growth Conference! 1st Annual State-wide Smart Growth Conference: Wednesday, November 14, 2007, Michel J. Adanti Student Center Southern Connecticut State University, New Haven, CT, 8:30 am - 4:00 p.m. Space is limited; please [register](#) to attend by Friday, September 28. <http://www.ctsmartgrowth.com/showDiary.do?diaryId=95> <http://1000friends-ct.org/PayPal-RegisterConference.htm>



ATTENTION BIOLOGY AND LIFE SCIENCE TEACHERS!! A wonderful web site with images and activities to use in the classroom to enhance student experiences with the very, very small. http://www.exploratorium.edu/imaging_station/activities/classroom/classroom.php

In an attempt to keep the CSC at readable length, the following links will allow you to access offerings in Previous Issues (Return to Table of Contents)

<http://www.cssaonline.net/CSCAug7.pdf>
<http://www.cssaonline.net/CSCAug21.pdf>
<http://www.cssaonline.net/CSCAug28.pdf>

We are proud to announce that we have another author in our midst! Point of Contact Bill Peltz has written a book entitled: Dear Teacher: Expert Advice for Effective Study Skills. In the book he tells the teacher how to help the student learn how to learn: how to take notes and organize a notebook, how to annotate a text, how to learn material for tests. Those of you fortunate enough to have attended some of the many workshops Bill has presented for CSTA over the years will know what that Bill is a valuable resource. Congratulations! You can find his book at Amazon.com

57 WORKSHOPS!

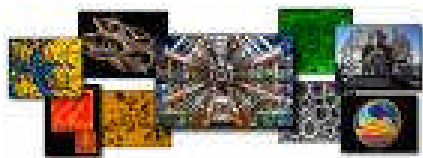
EXHIBITORS WITH LOTS OF STUFF AND INFORMATION!

HUNDREDS OF FELLOW TEACHERS OF SCIENCE!

(AND MUMMIES!)



The 2007 Connecticut Science Educators' Conference Program is here! [Click here](#) for more information. This year you may register for the conference online. You may also pay your membership dues online. You can even register and pay dues at the same time! Follow the directions from the homepage for membership, or save a step and do both at once with your conference registration. To register, go to: <http://www.csta-us.org/>



Nanotech Symposium for Educators and Journalists: Join us for a lively journey into the mysterious world of the very small, and take part in provocative discussions concerning nanotech's very big potential impacts. This is a day of continuing education and enrichment with top researchers and experts skilled at communicating science and technology to lay audiences. Multiple break-out sessions are targeted to the varying needs of educators and journalists. Topics include *Nano 101, Nanotech and Society, Visualizing the Nano World, Teaching Nano, Nanomedicine, Nano and Consumer Health and Safety, and Covering the Nano Beat.*

Audience: Middle/High School Educators and Journalists. Available: Friday, October 26, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Registration required: 617-723-2500. Fee: \$25, includes parking, lunch, PEP certificate, and Exhibit Halls admission (open to 9:00 p.m. on Fridays). For updated information: mos.org/educators. Co-sponsored by the Center for High-Rate Nanomanufacturing at Northeastern University, the University of Massachusetts Lowell, and the University of New Hampshire and by the Nanoscale Science and Engineering Center at Harvard and MIT.

2007-2008 JWOD/JETS NATIONAL ENGINEERING DESIGN CHALLENGE: The JWOD/JETS National Engineering Design Challenge (NEDC) is a competition in which teams of students learn and apply engineering skills while making a difference in the lives of persons with disabilities. More details are at www.jets.org.

Greater Hartford Academy of Math and Science (GHAMAS) will be holding its annual professional development conference for middle/high school math and science teachers on Tuesday, Nov 6, 2007. Currently, GHAMAS is looking for presenters that would like to present a two hour session in math or science. If you are interested, please email Rachael Manzer rmanzer@crec.org

The UConn Material Advantage (UCMA) society is made up of engineering students from several disciplines interested in sparking scientific inspiration in kids in CT schools. Each year they develop a Materials Quiz that focuses on the achievements of Connecticut scientists and engineers at CT companies and send it out to teachers. They are also offering teachers the opportunity to have them come into their classrooms and do presentations or help with longer experiments as well. Details can be found at: <http://www.cssaonline.net/UCMAQuiz&CL2007.doc>

Take Action: Tell Congress to Support Including Environmental Education in NCLB
http://www.democracyinaction.org/dia/organizationsORG/cel/campaign.jsp?campaign_KEY=7147

Looking for a Science Position? Check out openings at: www.cssaonline.net/employmentopportunities.htm

THE FOLLOWING MATERIAL COMES FROM THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND IS INTENDED TO ASSIST EDUCATORS IN IMPLEMENTING THE FRAMEWORKS:

STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES: FROM MARY ANNE BUTLER, CT STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION: The People Speak is sponsoring a series of Global Debates for high school students. During ten day periods in October 2007 and March 2008, students across the globe will be organizing public debates in their high schools and coordinating a global vote on the debate topics. October's debate topic is on the best way to lower carbon emissions and March will focus on water rights – both serious issues facing the US and the world. Information on the debates can be found at: www.thepeoplespeak.org Victoria Baxter, Director of The People Speak (vbaxter@unfoundation.org).



NASA OPPORTUNITIES: To find out all of the opportunities offered by NASA for Educators and their students, go to this link: <http://www.nasa.gov/audience/foreducators/topnav/actnow/>. For the most recent offerings, go to: www.cssaonline.net/NASAnews.doc



Opportunity for Science Educators Doing Environmental Work: [The SeaWorld/Busch Gardens/Fujifilm Environmental Excellence Awards](#) provides school and community groups with a monetary award, national recognition, and some well-deserved fun at one of the adventure parks. Eight winning groups are selected each year to win \$10,000. One environmental educator/leader each year receives \$5,000. The deadline for applications is November 30, 2007. For information visit the link above or call toll-free (877) 792-4332.

Bioethics Curriculum Seeking High School Biology Field Test Teachers for Spring Semester 2008:

Funded by the National Institutes of Health, the Center for Applied Ethics and the Center for Science Education at Education Development Center are collaborating on the development of a bioethics curriculum that can serve as a supplement to high school biology classes. . **Application Deadline: September 30, 2007** . For Additional Information Contact: Erica Jablonski, M.A., Center for Science Education, Education Development Center, ejablonski@edc.org or 617-618-2552

STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES!

NASA'S ENGINEERING DESIGN CHALLENGE: PLANT GROWTH CHAMBERS:

During the 2007-2008 school year, join NASA's Engineering Design Challenge to design, analyze, build, and assess plant growth chambers as part of a standards-based activity related to the STS-118 space shuttle mission. [Click here](#) for more information and to register. www.nasa.gov/education.

SP VISION CARE "VISION OF SCIENCE" AWARD NOW AVAILABLE TO K-12 SCIENCE EDUCATORS: NSTA is pleased to announce that K-12 science educators will now be eligible to receive the VSP Vision Care "Vision of Science" Award, To download an application for this award, go to <http://www.nsta.org/pdfs/awards/VSP.pdf>. The deadline for applications is October 15, 2007. [See more.](#)

SCIENCECOMPLIANCE is a new science resource for K-8 schools provided by AccuWeather Education. They are searching for consultants to write and review lesson plans aligned to national and state K-8 science standards. Please Reply to Mary Beth Toczek at Toczek@AccuWeather.com <http://education.accuweather.com>

Ready When You Are — **FOR FREE! You're teaching a subject for the first time, or for the first time in a long time. You need a content refresher *now*. Where can you find help that's engaging, high-quality, easy to access—and affordable, too? From NSTA's latest ready resource: Science Objects! With support from sponsors, including [NASA](#), [NOAA](#), [FDA](#), [the NHTSA](#), [the Hewlett Foundation](#), and [the GE Foundation](#), Science Objects provide all teachers of science open access to these valuable new resources—at no cost! [\[Learn More\]](#)**



The NSTA New Science Teacher Academy, co-founded by the Amgen Foundation with a three-year, \$3 million grant, is a professional development initiative created to help strengthen quality science teaching, enhance teacher confidence and classroom excellence, and improve teacher content knowledge.

<http://www.nsta.org/academy/>



In support of **Earth Science Week 2007 (October 14-20)**, the American Geological Institute (AGI) is publishing its "The Pulse of Earth Science" Toolkit . **The Toolkit can be pre-ordered now. Shipping will begin in early August.** Individual kits are available for the cost of shipping and handling (\$6.95 in the United States). Bulk pricing is available. Visit <http://www.earthsciweek.org/materials/index.html>

From Liz Buttner at the State Department of Education:

DISTRIBUTION LIST UPDATE: If I don't already have the contact info for a science leader in each of your district's schools, you may want to send me names and e-mail addresses for principals, assistant principals or other designated science contacts in your district who might benefit from being on my distribution list.

We are presently funded by Bristol-Myers Squibb

<http://www.bms.com/landing/data/index.html> MANY THANKS TO OUR SPONSOR