



## Virginia Association of Science Teachers

eNotes - Fall 2008

### Don't forget to register for the VAST Professional Development Institute!

If you don't do it for yourself, do it for your students! Take the time to re-energize - it's good for your mind and your soul. At the 2008 VAST PDI, you will learn even more about inquiry, environmental science, technology, and of course, the traditional sciences: earth and space, biology, chemistry, and physics.

You won't want to miss the Friday Event at the Virginia Air & Space Center:

- 2008 VAST and PAEMST Awards
- IMAX Movie - *Magnificent Desolation: Walking the Moon in 3-D*
- Air & Space Center Exhibits
- Food and fellowship with your colleagues

and Kathryn C. Thornton of the University of Virginia, speaking on her perspectives on spaceflight as an astronaut.

And, don't miss out on the Program with over 150 hours of professional development sessions!

Many people think the most valuable aspect of any teacher conference is the networking and "borrowing" of ideas (in addition to the freebies!)--register today and see for yourself!

Register online at: [http://www.vast.org/index.cfm/go/content.dsprcontent/Page\\_Name/Conference.html](http://www.vast.org/index.cfm/go/content.dsprcontent/Page_Name/Conference.html)

Save \$30 if you register and pay online before **October 11!**

### *Journal of Virginia Science Education*

#### **Call for Submissions, Spring 2009**

We're close to the tipping point of the use of technology in the science classroom. We've moved beyond the early adopters and the 'gee whiz' applications to a focus on finding sustainable ways to effectively integrate technology in the classroom for all students and teachers. In fact, the International Society of Technology in Education's (ISTE) National Educational Technology Standards for Students (NETS-S) calls for technology to be used to create and innovate, to communicate, and to build critical thinking and decision making skills for students. However, for us to realize these technological goals in science classrooms, it must be more than a bunch of buttons to punch or mouse clicks. The use of technology must add value to learning, and it must be thoughtfully integrated in instruction.

For this issue of the Journal, we are seeking manuscripts that describe successful integration strategies for technology in the science classroom. We want to hear how you've identified candidate technologies, how you've brought them into the classroom and supported them, how you can tell they're making a difference, and how you're sustaining the change. We'd also like to hear about students' use of technology to improve learning and how technology use can be scaled and supported across entire districts. The focus is not on the latest and greatest technologies, but rather on how you're making them work in the classroom.

As always, we also accept articles outside the focus. The deadline for submissions is **February 1,**

**2009.** Please visit <http://www.vast.org> for more information or contact Michele Lombard at [journal@vast.org](mailto:journal@vast.org).

### *The Science Educator*

The deadline for submissions for the next newsletter is **December 10th, 2008**. Please send announcements of upcoming events, labs and lessons, and articles of interest to [newsletter@vast.org](mailto:newsletter@vast.org). Watch for the newsletter in January with news and images of the VAST 2008 PDI!

### Science Career Symposium

Dear Science Teacher,

Please invite the students of your school for an outstanding opportunity on Saturday, November 8th at 10 a.m. at the University of Virginia - the **Science Career Symposium!**

Meet prominent scientists who are committed to encouraging future scientists; discover scientific careers; find out what it takes to be a scientist!

This event is free of charge and lunch is provided to students.

Reserve your spots now. Email [sciencecareers@att.net](mailto:sciencecareers@att.net) with group name and number of participants.

Visit <http://home.att.net/~sciencecareers/>

The Symposium is sponsored by Virginia Junior Academy of Science and University of Virginia.

The Virginia Association of Science Teachers is affiliated with the National Association of Science Teachers. For more information about VAST, visit our web site at [www.vast.org](http://www.vast.org).

To renew or sign-up for membership online, click [here](#).

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