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## IAS Bulletin, v4n1, October 2003

Iowa Academy of Science

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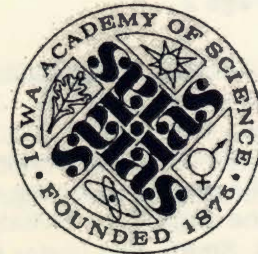
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# IAS BULLETIN

## NEWSLETTER OF THE IOWA ACADEMY OF SCIENCE

### Acting MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Greetings. As we resume publication of this *Bulletin*, I want to bring the Academy members up to date on what has been happening in the main office.

Bill Cannon, who was Executive Director last year, resigned in June and has taken a position out west. That left a void which had to be filled so the business of the Academy could continue. The Board accepted my offer to fill the position for a year on a volunteer basis. My year will definitely end next June, and the Board will be busy this year figuring out how to fill the position on a permanent basis. Jane Vander Linden remains as the Office Manager, and she is the one who keeps the place running. Without her able work, the Academy just could not function. But, as we quickly realized when Bill Cannon resigned, the Academy cannot function without an executive. Somebody has to make executive decisions, sign the checks, plan the Annual Meeting, and a dozen other functions that go beyond the scope of Jane's position. This is the role I've taken on, but the executive director cannot do all that the Academy needs doing. So far, I've been most fortunate in the cooperation I have received. People I've asked to help in various ways have been most willing. As we progress through the year and as we approach the Annual Meeting in April, I hope that you all will continue to be so generous with your time and talents. I thank you all in advance.

Marcy Seavey continues to coordinate the two programs funded by external grants and run out of the Cedar Falls office; Project WET and GLOBE. Marcy has distinguished herself on the national level in these endeavors, and the Academy can glow in the reflection of her light. We are quite fortunate to have her. See her piece in this issue.

Although we have much work to be done in the office, we are not so blessed with funds to support a staff. We do have the services of Arie Schiller who shares the few hours we can afford to pay her between the Academy's work and Marcy's programs. Arie is a past Iowa Junior Academy of Science research grant winner and long-time active member of the Junior Academy. This fall she is beginning her freshman year at UNI, and we look forward to a long and happy work relationship with her.

The Academy office is the place where much of the Academy business is carried out. In part, it is your office. Because we have so few staff, Jane's duties sometimes take her out of the office, and I can afford to be in the office only a couple hours per day, you may find the telephone unanswered at times. However, Jane and I are both available by e-mail and can always be reached eventually. We ask for your patience at times. You are also invited to stop by the office at any time to see the spaces and to observe what goes on (but it might pay to give us a call first!). We are fortunate that the University of Northern Iowa has provided such pleasant accommodations.

Lynn Brant

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## A VIEW TO THE FUTURE OF THE ACADEMY

I am somewhat fascinated by the asymmetry of the questions asked about a person's death, the collapse of the economy, or the extinction of the dinosaurs. "What did J. Smith die of?", "Why did the economy go to the dogs?", or "What killed off the dinosaurs?" Of course, these are very pertinent questions, especially if J. Smith died under peculiar circumstances or extra-terrestrial objects might be involved in the demise of the dinosaurs. What we rarely hear with the same intensity or interest, are questions such as, "Why did J. Smith live?" or "Why did the economy (or dinosaurs) do so well for so long?" Part of this asymmetry has to do with proximate vs ultimate causes. Much easier to explain that J. Smith had a heart attack or that a bolide from space eliminated those old reptilians. These are easy and rather satisfying answers about J. Smith and *T. rex*, but as we listen to economists, we realize that there are neither easy nor satisfying answers about the economy.

Which brings me to the Iowa Academy of Science. We are not dead; therefore, I shan't ask why we died, but rather, "what makes us live?" What role in the science culture of Iowa does the Academy play? If we answer that question, we may be able to determine how we might become even more alive and more successful. Although we have the *Journal*, our Annual Meeting, and the Iowa Science Teaching Section Fall Conference we have few opportunities to really hash out the question I pose. I suggest we use this *Bulletin* as a forum to debate the answers. Write to me and let me know your vision for the Academy. I will print some of your ideas (sorry, space limits keep me from promising to print all responses). To prime the pump on the well of good debate, I shall throw out a few ideas of my own. Feel free to criticize at will - in fact, please do.

The *Journal of the Iowa Academy of Science*, (JIAS) publishes quality papers reporting original research. It is peer-reviewed and abstracted in eight abstracting services. Unfortunately, it has too few manuscripts submitted, especially in some fields of science. It is also of minor utility to many of our members. I suggest that the Board promote an expansion of the content of the *Journal* to include (in addition to the present original research papers): 1) abstracts of all papers given at the Annual Meeting, 2) in-depth articles describing science/society issues within Iowa either not covered or covered only superficially by the mainline press, 3) articles pertaining to science education matters in and/or unique to Iowa, and 4) articles that highlight exciting areas of research conducted by Iowa scientists that would be of interest to other scientists, teachers, and political leaders of Iowa. Expanding the *Journal* in this way, the Academy would become better known to political and other leaders across the State and of greater usefulness in promoting science, science education, and promotion of public understanding of science. The drawbacks of this idea are the added cost of publishing, the added workload upon the editor, and persuading writers to contribute. In spite of the obvious obstacles, I think it is an idea whose time to debate has come.

Please let me know what you think and what other ideas you might have to contribute.

L.B. (*Bulletin* editor)

lynn.brant@uni.edu

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The Academy is very fortunate that Lynn Brant has assumed the title and duties of Acting Executive Director as of July 1, 2003 with the departure of Bill Cannon, the former Executive Director. Both Lynn and Jane Vander Linden, our Office Manager, have done an outstanding job of moving the Academy forward—and Lynn is volunteering his time.

I want to express my appreciation to the members who have agreed to serve on or chair the various committees of the Academy. As everyone knows, the well being of the Academy depends on the activity and accomplishments of committees. Also, I hope that all members will be actively involved in promoting the Academy and its goals. We especially need new members and everyone can serve as a recruiter. I look forward to a productive year for the Academy and its members.

Tom Fenton



## GLOBE Scientists Focus on Iowa

As the IAS Education Director, my mission is to further quality K-12 science educational opportunities for Iowans. Since 1999, I have done this primarily by offering teacher education workshops in two programs, Project WET (Water Education for Teachers) and the GLOBE Program (Global Learning and Observations to Benefit the Environment). This column is my opportunity to share with you the accomplishments of Project WET and GLOBE in Iowa. With the absence of the IAS Bulletin in 2002-2003, you've missed a year of updates. In 2002-2003 the Iowa Project WET team trained more than 600 preservice teachers using funds provided by the Resource Enhancement And Protection-Conservation Education Program (REAP-CEP). We partnered with IOWATER to bring the new Project WET Guide, *Healthy Water, Healthy People*, to participants of the IOWATER Educator's Module and with Iowa Public Television on a combined Project WET/Explore More: Water Quality workshop for secondary educators. Thirty-seven Iowa teachers were trained in the GLOBE Program and two advanced workshops offered current GLOBE teachers new training opportunities. Iowa GLOBE students have contributed more than 62,000 data points to GLOBE. Seven Iowa GLOBE schools assisted the GLOBE atmospheric scientists in testing a digital thermometer that, thanks to the test results, will replace potentially hazardous mercury max-min thermometers. This year will bring more opportunities for Iowa Educators to participate in GLOBE and Project WET.

The International GLOBE Program has recognized our Iowa program as a leader in GLOBE by providing the Iowa Academy of Science the opportunity to pilot a new GLOBE strategy, GLOBE ONE. The goal of GLOBE ONE is to realize the full potential of GLOBE by involving an entire community in GLOBE. This will be accomplished by providing opportunities for teachers and students to meet directly with scientists and become involved in GLOBE not only as data collectors but as fellow researchers.

In August, 11 GLOBE scientists and educators from around the country and every GLOBE research team, came to Iowa for 4 days to plan the implementation of GLOBE ONE. We toured NE Iowa, Waterloo GLOBE Schools, and the UNI Campus. We wrote scientific hypothesis about Iowa's air, water, soil and land that could be tested using the GLOBE protocols already in place and some supplementary measurements. We wrote a plan for implementing GLOBE across an entire community, involving students, teachers, administrators, parents, youth groups, local scientists, institutions of higher learning, citizen groups, businesses, and more.

GLOBE ONE: Project Black Hawk will focus research questions on Black Hawk County, but will provide opportunities for teachers throughout the state. The GLOBE ONE training workshops bring together Iowa teachers with GLOBE scientists. The first workshop, dates this February TBA, will include Hummingbird, phenology, and data entry training

with Dr. Bill Hilton Jr., the Hummingbird Principal Investigator from South Carolina. Dr. Hilton plans to include school visits in his trip to Iowa. Other workshops will focus on other GLOBE Protocol areas and on helping students develop their own inquiry based research projects.

Iowa has gained the interest of scientists from around the country, scientists who work with NASA missions like CLOUDSAT and LandSAT and who study the relationships between air, water, land and soil—subjects upon which our state economy rests. Whether you are a science researcher, educator, or simply a scientifically minded citizen, I invite you-Iowa Academy of Science member-to become involved in GLOBE ONE by contacting me at [iowawet@iscsun.uni.edu](mailto:iowawet@iscsun.uni.edu).

Project WET Update –REAP-CEP awarded IAS a \$27K grant to provide Project WET workshops for 650 Iowa preservice education students. These workshops will be offered in conjunction with their science and/or social studies methods courses. REAP-CEP is a long time supporter of Iowa Project WET. Iowa Project WET will continue our partnership with IOWATER. Participants of the IOWATER Educator's Module will receive *Healthy Water, Healthy People* Water Quality Educator's Guides from Iowa Project WET. A special thanks to Hawkeye Community College, University of Northern Iowa elementary education majors, Nestle Waters, Hartman Reserve and IOWATER for making the 4th Annual Make a Splash with Project WET 4th grade water festival a success.

by Marcy Seavey (Education Director)

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## WHAT IS THE GLOBE PROGRAM?

The GLOBE Program is a partnership between scientists, teachers and students in 103 countries around the world to learn about the Earth's global systems by studying the local environment. GLOBE students and teachers follow protocols designed by GLOBE scientists to collect data about their local air, water, soil and land cover. They report the data to the GLOBE website where it is added to the data from the other 102 countries and the scientists use it to validate satellite data and in their other research projects. The data are also available for the students to use in their own investigations. This summer I attended a Global Learning Expedition in Croatia, where students from 22 countries presented their own scientific research in much the same way IJAS students present at the Annual Meeting. I asked a high school senior from New Jersey what he would remember most about his Croatian experience. He answered that he would remember the reactions of the scientists, being treated like an equal and taken seriously, meeting the scientists face to face and finding out this is as important to them as it is to the students. GLOBE is kids learning about science by doing it and scientists taking them seriously.



## Consider a Gift in Support of the Academy

As mentioned in previous Bulletins, the Academy has established two major funds for receiving monetary gifts—the Science Endowment Fund and the Benchmark Fund. The Science Endowment Fund has been established as an endowment for the future of the Academy. Gifts of \$1000, or more, may be designated for this fund. Those who provide a gift to the Science Endowment Fund will have dues forgiven, however, this is not a life membership. Dues will be drawn from fund earnings throughout the life of membership. As it grows, this endowment provides long term support for the Academy.

The Benchmark Fund has been developed as a source of seed money to be used in seeking individual and corporate gifts. Any donation to the Academy may be designated to be placed in the Benchmark Fund or to be used in the general budget of the Academy. Benchmark Funds are placed in an investment with an attached money management account. As required, money easily may be shifted from the investment into the money management account and checks written to cover Finance Committee efforts in Fund Raising.

The two funds illustrate IAS membership support as corporations and individuals are approached for funding by members of the Finance Committee, the Board, or other designated members. Consider a generous gift to the Academy through one of these funds or through a specified gift as reported in another article in this issue of The Bulletin. You may contact the office or any member of the Finance Committee to discuss this.

### IAS PLEDGE OF GIFT

Please consider supporting the Iowa Academy of Science through a long term pledge.

**A. Science Endowment Fund (\$1000)**

I pledge \$1000 in increments of \$250 each year for four years ending in 2005. It is understood that I will receive notice of payment in lieu of the annual dues notice during this period.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

**B. Benchmark Fund (\$1000)**

I pledge \$1000 in increments of \$250 each year for four years ending in 2005. It is understood that I will receive notice of payment in lieu of the annual dues notice during this period.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

**C. I pledge \$\_\_\_\_\_ to provide endowment support for the Iowa Academy of Science in the following marked area of IAS activity:**

- |                                                                 |                                                         |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Speakers Endowment                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Undergraduate Scholarships     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Iowa Science Foundation                | <input type="checkbox"/> Iowa Junior Academy of Science |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Journal of the Iowa Academy of Science | <input type="checkbox"/> Iowa Science Teachers Journal  |

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

With the receipt of this signed form and the first installment of my pledge, I agree that I will continue to support this pledge through dues notice arrival in 2005.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

Return this form and your gift to:

Iowa Academy of Science  
175 Baker Hall  
University of Northern Iowa  
Cedar Falls, IA 50614-0508



## Gifts Received

The following is a listing of those who have provided support for the Academy through gifts. These gifts provide for the endowment and ongoing activities of the Academy, according to the wishes of the givers. The support of members in this manner, provides evidence to outside supporters of the support of membership.

### **Iowa Junior Academy of Science:**

Frank Starr \$20,000

### **Science Endowment Fund: (\$1000 or more)**

Abe Epstein	Cherin Lee
Wayne Anderson	James Christiansen
Donald Duvick	Pat Finnerty
Lynn Brant	Gene Lucas
Charisse Buising	George Burnet
Jay Kopp	Bonita Glatz

### **(250 or more)**

Tom Ervin	Donald Duvick
Bonita Glatz	Anonymous

### **Benchmark Fund: (\$1000 or more)**

Ruth Swensen	Donald Huffman
Donald Duvick	Ross Iverson
Dave McCalley	Edwin Wenberg
George Burnet	Abe Epstein

### **(\$500 or more)**

Robert Yager	Laverne & Lenore Durkee
Paul Waite	Donald Duvick

### **(\$250 or more)**

Paul Waite	Jack Robertson
Jonathan Andelson	

### **(\$100 or more)**

Jean Prior	Edward Braun
Michael Williams	Byrle Packer
John Hamilton	John Wozniak
Howard Lenhoff	James Hedges
Roger Landers Jr.	G. Edgar Folk
National Association of Science Writers	

### **(under \$100)**

Alan Orr	John Black
George Marzeck	Richard Worm
Otto Knauth	William Reese
G. Henry Veldhuis	

### **General Fund: (\$100 or more)**

John Patterson	Edward Baumann
Thomas Loynachan	Karl Gschneider, Jr.
Charles Martinson	A.W. Guzik
Lee Liu	Aaron Spurr
Harold McNabb	Lee Friell
H.W. Guzik	IOWATER
William Desmarais	Rosanne Healy
Paul Bartelt	Paul Pistek
Frank Starr	

### **(\$50 or more)**

James Berquam	G. Edgar Folk
Howard Lyon	Werner Kolln
Neil Bernstein	

### **(under \$50)**

Verona Burton	Christine Rohret
M. Darrell Schultz	Lawrence Hutzell
Connie Mutel	Theodore Smith
Brenda Molano Flores	Todd Hill
William Forsee	Patricia Gingrich
Nick Stoyloff	Gary Donnermeyer
Jeff Hepburn	John Zietlow
Diane Robertson	Marvin Peterson
Pat Finnerty	Elwood Martin
Gilbert Hewett	John Pesek
Karen Kay Juhl	Jane Christiansen
Laverne & Lenore Durkee	Shirley Cropper
David Dozark	William Gilbert
John Wozniak	Tom Fenton
Lucy Marske	Sally Hinz
Harry Horner	

# Thank You for Your Support!!!

## Institutional Members

Buena Vista University  
Coe College  
Cornell College  
Des Moines University - Osteopathic Medical Center  
Drake University  
Graceland University  
Grinnell College  
Iowa Child  
Iowa Primate Learning Sanctuary  
Iowa State University

Iowa Wesleyan College  
Kirkwood Community College  
The Krell Institute  
Loras College  
Mount Mercy College  
Putnam Museum of History and Natural Science  
The University of Iowa  
University Northern of Iowa  
Wartburg College



## PASSING OF THE TORCH

For the past eight years, Neil Bernstein has done a great job as editor of the Journal. In addition to the regular issues, Neil has edited two large, special issues. Editing requires a great amount of unseen work that we take for granted as we read the articles. He is now stepping aside and turning the job over to Jeff Parmelee, Assistant Professor of Biology at Simpson College, who has served as Associate Editor for the past year. The Board accepted Neil's resignation and Jeff's appointment in July. Jeff is now working with Neil in this transition period and will assume full responsibility beginning in January 2004. I'm sure that you want to join me in expressing our sincere appreciation for all that Neil has done over these years, and we want to wish Jeff success in this endeavor. Additional changes in associate editor positions are Tom Rosburg for botany and Dave McCullough for zoology.

The Iowa Academy of Science is established to further scientific research and its dissemination, education in the sciences, public understanding of science, and recognition of excellence in these endeavors.

## IAS BULLETIN

NEWSLETTER OF THE IOWA ACADEMY OF SCIENCE



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