

1973

## Organizational Guidelines: Iowa Junior Academy of Science

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### Recommended Citation

(1973) "Organizational Guidelines: Iowa Junior Academy of Science," *Iowa Science Teachers Journal*: Vol. 10 : No. 2 , Article 2.

Available at: <https://scholarworks.uni.edu/istj/vol10/iss2/2>

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Programs, In-Service Programs, Community Awareness Programs, and Assessment and Evaluation Efforts. Each Regional Center has a parallel membership whose responsibility deals directly with local area concerns. Specifically the concerns of the various programs are as follows:

**Student Programs:**

- SSTP
- Iowa Junior Academy Symposium
- Environmental Action Projects
- Regional Field Excursions

**Pre-Service Programs:**

- Iowa-UPSTEP
- Internship in Regional Centers
- Staff Exchanges
- Professional Education Sequences
- Certification and Standards

**In-Service Programs:**

- CCSS Projects
- Curriculum Implementation
- Interdisciplinary Environmental Programs
- National Elementary Projects Institutes

**Community Awareness:**

- Involvement of the local community in their educational interests. (The local taxpayer needs to be aware of their valuable investments. The American mind is the country's greatest natural resource).
- Symposia, Demonstrations, and Fairs for the Public
- Adult Education Programs

**Assessment of Needs:**

- National Assessment
- DPI Assessment
- School District Assessment
- Assessment for ASSIST Programs
- Evaluation of Programs established to meet Needs
- New Program Planning

**ORGANIZATIONAL GUIDELINES  
IOWA JUNIOR ACADEMY OF SCIENCE**

The Iowa Junior Academy of Science is a state-wide organization which sponsors programs for students and coordinates other activities for science motivated students within the state of Iowa. The IJAS programs emphasize scientific research as the most appropriate activity for Academy sponsorship. At the same time IJAS sponsors a variety of field and travel experiences that are also designed to motivate students in the sciences as broadly conceived. Regional conferences are held during September to stimulate interest among students within the high schools in Iowa. One major goal of these conferences for students with talent and interest is to identify one or more research projects for personal involvement. The conferences provide opportunities for assistance in defining problems, designing studies, collecting and analyzing data. These conferences are generally planned to coincide with the fall meetings of the Iowa Science Teaching Section in sixteen regions of the state.

In October, the first two annual symposia were held on the campus of UNI. Students who were selected as the six finalists from the preceding spring will present their exemplary work once again as a motivation for new students to get involved in a similar way. A major effort will be to publicize and explain IJAS activities available in the sixteen regions. The fall symposium will also serve as an introduction to the ISU Teacher-Student Short Course Program and as a stimulation for preparing research thrusts for competition in the U of I spring symposium. Evaluation of the twelve papers presented at the spring symposium in Iowa City will result in a selection of six papers to represent Iowa in the National Symposium and conceivably the World Symposium. In addition to the competition for the National Symposium, students will visit research laboratories, participate in personal career conferences, and discuss topics formally and informally with science educators and research scientists.

A special activity of the IJAS at the state level is the Annual Field Excursion. Within each region of the state, a field program provides students with the opportunity of learning more about the environment in their own region and other activities, programs, and facilities which exemplify scientific endeavors. Each year in June, one of the field programs will be selected as the Annual Field Excursion of-the-year. Members of the IJAS will be able



to participate in this Annual Field Excursion and learn more about other geographic regions of Iowa by carrying out various activities in the field for a weekend. Facilities and equipment (excluding sleeping bags) will be provided. IJAS participants will be assessed a minimal fee for food and supplies.

Students will be encouraged to participate in the Annual Community Betterment Program within each region. The purpose of this activity is to get students involved in projects to improve local communities. Each year three students on a statewide competitive basis will be awarded tuition scholarships to attend a Secondary Science Training Program based on their exemplary participation and contribution to their communities.

A major trip outside of Iowa will be planned each year for IJAS students. Argonne National Laboratories, the Florida Keys, the Grand Tetons, and similar places of scientific and environmental significance will be selected. Such excursions will comprise a major activity for IJAS on a statewide basis. College credit will be available as a result of participation for those persons eligible for early admission to a college or university in the state. Tuition and minimal fees will be assessed.

Bulletins will be prepared and distributed to all schools and IJAS participants during the academic year. This newsletter will be the primary means of communication among students, schools, and teachers. All persons will be encouraged to submit material for the Bulletin to the Director of IJAS.

A "Proceedings of the Iowa Junior Academy of Science" is published each year. This publication includes a resume of the various activities of the year and the expanded abstracts of the research reports that were presented at the spring symposia. It will provide a means for an experience in the publication of scientific papers and special reports for individual students and student groups.

Regional activities include the September rally for organizing the new year, regional research symposia, a weekend camp experience, tours of schools and science open houses in the regions, special action programs in all schools of the region, and cooperative involvement in statewide programs.

#### Student Program Committee:

Consists of six IAS members appointed by the President of IAS. Each member serves a term of three years with at least two new committee members appointed each year. The committee functions in an advisory capacity to the Director of the IJAS.

#### Director of IJAS:

Appointed by the student program committee for a term of three years. The duties of the Director include the following:

- Promotes student participation in activities of IJAS by school visitations, bulletins, and publicity campaigns.
- Maintains a list of participants and affiliate schools.
- Appoints with the approval of the Student Program Committee the 16 regional coordinators.
- Prepares and disseminates brochures and application forms for all student activities.
- Coordinates all programs for the Junior Academy or appoints appropriate person to administer given projects.
- Edits, prints and distributes Bulletin for individual participants, affiliate schools, academy officials, scientist-advisors, symposium participants, and others involved in secondary science teaching in Iowa.
- Maintains an information center and disseminates important information on nationwide secondary student programs.
- Attends regional conferences and planning sessions.

#### Science Education Advisory Council:

Consists of leaders in science education who are directly involved with schools and student programs.

Members include: Science Consultant (SDPI), Director of UNI Symposium, Director of U of I Symposium, Coordinator for Student Sessions at ISU Short Course, President of ISTS, Coordinator of IJAS Field Excursions, Coordinator of IJAS Community Betterment Program.

The Council serves in an advisory capacity to the Director for the development, improvement, and evaluation of student programs. Members of the Council submit material for the Bulletin regarding various activities.



Student Advisory Council:

Consists of 5-10 students who were finalists in the annual Science and Humanities Symposium, SSTP leaders, representatives of field projects from the preceding year, and finalists in the Community Betterment Program from preceding year.

The Council serves in an advisory capacity to the Director for the evaluation and improvement of the student programs.

IJAS Cabinet:

Consists of 16 regional coordinators appointed by the Director with approval of the Student Committee Program.

Specific responsibilities include the following:

- Promotes participation in activities of IJAS with drives, publicity, and written correspondence.
- Maintains a list of participants and affiliate schools for the region and submits them to the Director of IJAS.
- Organizes and conducts regional level meetings including the regional conferences and planning session.
- Coordinates the student activities on a regional level and promotes interaction with other regions.
- Facilitates communication among schools and students in the region.
- Submits material for the Bulletin to the Director of IJAS.
- Organizes fund raising projects to subsidize students for their participation in special programs.
- Maintains an accurate record of all regional meetings and submits minutes to the Director of IJAS following such meetings.

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ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING FOR THE PROPOSED IOWA COLLEGE BIOLOGY TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

A meeting involving all college biology teachers throughout the State of Iowa will take place during the Iowa Academy of Science meeting to be held April 27-28 at Grinnell College. The primary aim of this particular meeting will be to discuss plans for formulating a statewide College Biology Teachers'

Association. The impetus for organizing this proposed group has been derived from the results of a survey which was conducted and included all the two and four year college biology teachers in Iowa. The survey was specifically designed to determine the interest of these educators in forming such a statewide group. The results of the survey indicate that a majority of these educators expressed a desire to establish this organization. Further, the majority of the group desired to become an affiliate of the Iowa Academy as well. Specific times for the meeting will be announced in the printed program of events for the academy meeting.

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PROJECT ASSIST: RECENT HAPPENINGS

As the coordinators from the sixteen Project ASSIST centers prepare for their first formal meeting in Des Moines, February 25 and 26, it may be appropriate to consider the parameters for this pilot year. There are five areas of activity - each headed by a state coordinator working with a regional coordinator and associated staff in the sixteen centers. The five areas are: 1) assessment of needs and evaluation of existing programs, 2) public awareness and community relation programs, 3) student research, environmental and course-centered programs for enrichment and acceleration, 4) model teacher education programs involving schools and the twenty-eight colleges in Iowa with such programs, and 5) in-service projects involving schools and teachers in each region.

The assessment efforts will be a major undertaking for the first year. A committee involving staff from the Westinghouse Learning Corporation, Iowa Testing Programs, American College Testing Program, Lindquist Measurement Center, Division of Educational Psychology and Measurement, and the State Department of Public Instruction will provide the leadership and the expertise in this endeavor. Large numbers of persons will be involved in the assessment of needs in each center.

Public awareness programs and projects will be planned and developed during the summer. At least one such project will be planned for each region. In some cases a program that will