

1972

In-Service Institute in Environmental Science at UNI

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4. What recommendations are relevant for the science teaching enterprise when each of the credible explanations advanced in response to question 2 is assumed to be valid?
5. What steps are needed to facilitate the implementations of the suggestions advanced in response to question 4?
6. What are the educational and scientific merits of the NAEP project in terms of its providing assessments of science teaching in the public schools of the United States?

Two conferences are scheduled. The Phase I conference will review the NAEP Science data. The data to be studied in-depth will be outlined and specific questions will be developed for dealing with the material. Working subgroups will be set up (such as elementary level, urban and so on) to pursue the examination. Other material, such as the NAEP findings in Reading and the Coleman report, will be examined for possible relevance to the science study.

Products of the Phase I conference are expected to include: a collection of findings deemed especially relevant to science teachers, an annotated bibliography of references of the NAEP project, and a history of NAEP.

The Phase II conference has as its objective interpreting the information for educational purposes and making suggestions and recommendations based on the interpretation.

Two reports are expected from the conferences. They will be written to be useful to classroom teachers. The reports will include a comprehensive report and a synopsis to be issued as a supplement. The reports will be released early in 1973. The summary report or synopsis will be sent to secondary school science department chairmen listed in the NSTA registry, local and state supervisors, editors of science/science education journals, state science teacher association newsletters, members of the National Association for Industry-Education cooperation, and the American Book Publishers. It will also appear in Science and Children, The Science Teacher, and Journal of College Science Teaching.

The Phase I conference was scheduled to meet in late September, and the Phase II conference will meet after an interval of a month to six weeks.

Members of the team are: Dr. Julian R. Brandou, Director of the Science and Math Teaching Center at Michigan State University, Fred D. Johnson

from the Shelby County (Tennessee) Board of Education; Richard Kay, consultant in Science and Mathematics for the Idaho State Department of Education; Morris R. Lerner, Chairman of the Science Department at Barringer High School in Newark, New Jersey; Dr. Richard J. Merrill, consultant in Secondary Curriculum for the Mt. Diablo Unified School District in Concord, California; Dr. Joseph A. Struthers from the Boulder Valley Public Schools in Colorado; Dr. James R. Wailes, Professor of Science Education at the University of Colorado; Charles N. Wilson, Chairman of the Science Department at New Dorp High School in Staten Island, New York; Wilmer M. Cooksey, Chemistry teacher at Woodrow Wilson High School in Washington, D.C.; and Dr. Leslie W. Trowbridge, Chairman of the Department of Science Education at the University of Northern Colorado.

COUNCIL TO EXPLORE NAEP RESULTS

The Council of Great City Schools will conduct meetings this month for the purpose of acquainting directors of research and supervisors of curricula with the nature of National Assessment reports.

The Council will explore areas of mutual interest with two objectives in mind. First, it is hoped that the discussions will lead to the design and implementation of more relevant assessment mechanisms for large urban school districts. Second, the discussions could lead to the use of National Assessment results to identify topics for related research by the Council members.

Membership in the Council consists of superintendents of schools from 23 of the largest cities in the United States. The purpose of the Council is to look at the mutual problems of the large school systems.

IN-SERVICE INSTITUTE IN ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE AT UNI

A course entitled "Environmental Applications of Physics" will be offered at the University of Northern Iowa during the 1973 spring semester under a grant from the National Science Foundation. The course will be offered either Saturday morning or on Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday evening and will be taught by Verner Jensen of the Department of Physics.

The grant provides for travel allowances and a small book allowance and fee exemption. Applicants should have at least 8 hours of physics and should live not more than 75 miles from Cedar Falls.

Write to Dr. Robert W. Hanson, Department of Chemistry, University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls, Iowa 50613, for application materials.

TEACHING TIP ON CORRECTING STUDENTS' PAPERS

William Hartman
Chairman of Chemistry Department
Ellsworth Community College
Iowa Falls, Iowa

For those of us who are not fortunate enough to have an electric scoring machine, it is imperative that we design our apparatus or technique to correct teacher-made tests quickly. The simplest and easiest method we have found is to take the answer sheet and make a 3M thermofax transparency. With a red wax pencil, the correct answers are then marked. The transparent template is placed directly over the student's responses and the instructor can count either the number right or the number wrong. Multiple choice, essay, and short answer questions can be intermixed and be analyzed without removing the transparent answer key. We have used this method for eight years and have found it to be simple, quick, and efficient.

WINTER ECOLOGY AND NATURE STUDY

Dr. Floyd Sandford
Coe College
Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52402

Coe College, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, will be offering a course "Winter Ecology and Nature Study" at the Conservation Education Center, Iowa Conservation Commission, Guthrie Center, Iowa from January 5, 1973 to January 25, 1973. This college credit course offers five quarter hours or three semester hours of college credit to participants.

Students will reside in the dormitories at the Conservation Education Center and most of their learning activities will be centered in the Springbrook State Park area. A wide variety of educational activities are planned to provide students with information concerning the environment and eco-systems. Activities include field trips, lectures, individual projects, and recreational opportunities, to name a few.

Participants will have the opportunity to study the environment in a natural setting and to study with qualified individuals in the field. This course is open to all college students and adults, not necessarily Coe students only. All Registrations must be completed by the end of December.

More information concerning costs, what to bring and registration procedures may be obtained by writing to: Dr. Floyd Sandford, Coe College, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, 52402 or Conservation Education Center, Route 1, Box 133C, Guthrie Center, Iowa 50115.

ANNOUNCING THE ELEVENTH ANNUAL IOWA JUNIOR SCIENCE, ENGINEERING AND HUMANITIES SYMPOSIUM "MANKIND, SCIENCE, AND TOMORROW"

February 22, 23, and 24, 1973

Headlined Problems: "Engineering for Tomorrow," "Interdisciplinary Approaches to Population Problems," "Humanistic Science," and "Futuristic Science - Fact or Fantasy?"

The 1973 Iowa JSEH Symposium will attempt to refute these generalities by seeking directions for correcting some of the problems upon which such partially true headlines are based. Three hundred highly-motivated high school science students and fifty concerned science teachers will be invited to interact with more than forty renowned scientists and professors on present and future issues concerning our science-based society. Thus researchers, science teachers, and future leaders will convene to face some of the most pressing problems concerning "Mankind, Science, and Tomorrow."