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New ISTJ Format

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THE IOWA SCIENCE TEACHERS' JOURNAL

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NEW ISTJ FORMAT

The financial problems of the Iowa Academy of Science caused the Board of Directors to approve a budget for 1972-73 which decreased the support for the Iowa Science Teachers' Journal by nearly two-thirds. As a result of this austerity program it was necessary to alter the format, size and printing for Volume 9, No. 4 of the Journal. Several alternatives were considered before the ISTJ editorial board recommended a new format to the IAS Publication Committee. This issue represents the recommended and approved format which will characterize the next three issues of Volume 10 as well.

The Journal will continue to be forwarded to the more than four hundred and fifty public and private schools in Iowa and to all members of Section Q (Science Teaching) section of the Academy. Other Academy members will receive copies only if they specifically request to be included on the mailing list by contacting the Executive Secretary of the Academy. This procedure merely continues the circulation policy of the past year.

The new format necessitates certain changes in ISTJ editorial policy. Articles now must be shorter and they must exhibit a newsletter style. The new Journal will attempt to include more recent announcements, news items, and practical suggestions for teaching science at all academic levels. Contributions from all members of the Academy and especially those on the circulation list will be welcomed. With the new printing mode, less lead time than the two months needed in the past will be required. The editorial office will be contacting potential contributors for material as well.

With the change in ISTJ the Board of Directors, the Executive Staff, and the Publication Committee of the Academy have all suggested that the research-type articles that were often included in the ISTJ issues of past years will now be more favorably considered for publication in the new Proceedings of the Iowa Academy of Science. Articles previously submitted for ISTJ which no longer are appropriate may be forwarded to the editor of the Proceedings if authors will so indicate this preference.

Although decreases in size, coverage, and circulation are directions which are never easily accepted, the ISTJ editorial staff is pleased with the continuation of ISTJ and the new format which is dictated by the severe decrease in Academy support. Please forward your reaction and your thoughts.

Volume 4 is the first edition being handled by the new Managing Editor, Charles L. Frederick. Melton E. Golmon has left Iowa for a new position as a professor at the University of Maryland. Surely his efforts with the past three volumes were greatly appreciated. Perhaps it is appropriate that the format of ISTJ is changed at the same time as such a major change in the editorial staff occurs. Good luck and thanks from all the readers, Mel! Welcome aboard, Charlie!

Robert E. Yager
Editor