

2006-2007 Report of the BSA Teaching Section

Officers

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- Because the Section's bylaws were revised and the changes were approved at the 2006 BSA meeting in Chico, CA, each elected officer will now serve for three years, with one new officer elected each year. Because the first three-year term was assigned to the chairperson, the new officer to be elected at the 2007 BSA meeting in Chicago will be the vice-chairperson.

- The Teaching Section's New *BSA College Teaching Innovations* short course will be offered from 1-5 p.m. on Sunday, July 8, 2007.

Organized by: Jim Wandersee, LSU and Marshall Sundberg, ESU

Abstract:

This 4-hr. short course, co-taught by two experienced full professors with decades of plant biology education experience, is offered especially for graduate students, prospective and new plant sciences faculty, and others interested in innovation. It is designed for those who seek an optimized and prioritized overview of the latest thinking and research on successful, 21st-century, college science teaching. Use of e-Learning, active learning strategies, computer-based concept mapping, findings of misconception studies, and research-supported course organization strategies for teaching large classes will be highlighted. The course is comprised of a carefully structured series of mini-presentations and activities that maximize every minute of the Congress attendees' time. The short-course text book, *Active Learning in Secondary and College Science Classrooms*, will be supplied to each participant for annotation during the course. Each course completer will receive an official *BSA 2007 Professional Update Course Completion Certificate* with a value of .5 CEU (continuing education unit). Attendee Limit: 50.

- The Teaching Section accepted 11 papers for oral presentation at the 2007 BSA scientific meeting. They will be presented on the morning of Monday, July 9th in the *Boulevard A* room of the Chicago Hilton. Immediate Past Chairperson Beverly J. Brown will preside.
- The Business Meeting of the Teaching Section will follow immediately. Chairperson Jim Wandersee will preside.
- At its previous Business Meeting, the Section agreed to consider naming BSA Teaching Section representatives (without financial support) to attend related professional meetings and to promote BSA and the Teaching Section--if they are going anyway and would like to volunteer. Stan Rice represented the Section at the 2006 Project Kaleidoscope meeting in Kansas City, MO and Jim Wandersee, at the 2006 International Congress on Education in Botanic Gardens at Oxford University in the UK.
- Members of the Section have been active in 2006-2007 updating BSA's Image Collection and carrying forward its PlantingScience initiative.

Respectfully submitted,
 Jim Wandersee, Chairperson, BSA Teaching Section
 William LeBlanc Alumni Professor, Louisiana State University