

SESD Annual Business Meeting Minutes
NSTA – Dallas, TX
April 1, 2005

Present – Laureen Summers, Babette Moeller, Ed Keller Jr., Saul Shenberg, Karen Milchus, Rickie Summers, Mickie Flores, Shelton Sullivan, Sami Kahn, Greg Stefanich.

The meeting was called to order and minutes were reviewed and accepted with the following addition: Gerry Wheeler was present for part of the Atlanta meeting.

President Sami Kahn presented her report on the state of SESD.

Report of Treasurer David Bartlett (in absentia) was reviewed.

Secretary John Stiles (in absentia) had no motions.

Convention Committee Chair Babette Moeller reviewed the plans for the Science-Abled Breakfast planned for April 2, 2005. Scadden winner Sherry Humphries and Sami Kahn are scheduled to speak.

Newsletter Editor Laureen Summers displayed copies of the recent GoodNewsletter as she encouraged submissions for her excellent work. Discussion ensued as to whether we would like to share the Newsletter with a broader audience, including NSTA listservs. Everyone present agreed that they would like the Newsletter to be disseminated more publicly and not limited to membership.

Journal Editors Peter Veronesi and Moira Fallon were thanked in absentia for their fine work on the Journal. Prof. Larry Quinsland is considering accepting this post. Issues of solicitation of manuscripts, review, and dissemination were discussed. 1) Short Reports/Research and Practice Section of Journal would give something useful for a long period of time; 2) Opens submissions up to wider audience including more K-12 teachers; 3) Broader peer review for practice section; 4) Link Journal through website; 5) Karen Milchus will push Journal at NSF/RDE to get submissions

Discussion regarding bibliography followed: Greg Stefanich reported that the bibliography is not updated and that it must be updated if it is to be sent to members or included on website. Mickie Flores suggested that we add the timeframe onto the bibliography so that readers know it is not current. Greg will try to contact Janet Davies to check status of bibliography.

Sami Kahn updated the group on the 2004-05 Scadden winner Ms. Sherry Humphries. Ms. Humphries will be present for the Science-Abled Breakfast on 4/2/05. She will receive a check for \$1,000 from RASEM. Discussion of Scadden Award for 2005-06 included concerns about applicant quality. To remedy, student outcomes will be added as a requirement on applications. Sami will draft new application and send to award committee for review.

New website coordinator Mickie Flores updated the group on her plans for the SEDS website. She has already begun to “clean up” problems of web design and accessibility. Mickie will link with Ed Keller’s website to increase visibility. Need to get linked to NSTA website. Need updated materials such as membership applications, newsletters, officers, and possibly photos to include.

Election of New Officers: Lauren Summers was elected unanimously to the office of President-elect. Babette Moeller ascended to the position of President as Sami Kahn completed her term of office. John Stiles (in absentia) agreed to continue in the position of Secretary, Almetta Hall (in absentia) agreed to stay on as Membership Chair, and Dave Bartlett (in absentia) agreed to stay on as Treasurer. With Mickie Flores as Web Coordinator and possibly Larry Quinsland as Journal Editor, there are no vacancies in SEDS leadership.

Lifetime Service Award: It was decided that this could be a non-monetary award. SEDS officers could form selection committee and a plaque could get “passed along” at the annual breakfast. Babette will organize committee, Sheldon will look into plaques.

Announcements: 1) Karen Milchus submitting a two-year NSF grant – other funding sources? 2) Karen Milchus – looking for teachers with disabilities for grant; 3) Is a paid pre-conference a possibility to fill the gap left by Greg Stefanich’s excellent programs? 4) Sami Kahn – teaching web seminar on science for students with disabilities through Council for Exceptional Children. 5) Karen Milchus – Concerns regarding NCLB and assessments – Should SEDS be more involved in advocacy?

The meeting was adjourned.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Sami Kahn