School Science and Mathematics Association
Founded in 1901

Fall 2018

The Math-Science Connector

Report of the 2018 Fall Annual Convention

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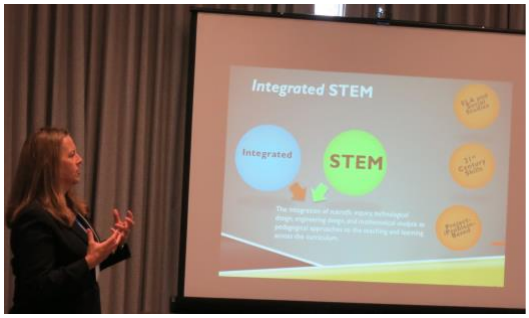
SSMA General Information

It was with great anticipation that I prepared and looked forward to the 117th Annual School Science and Mathematics Association Convention, and the convention did not disappoint! About 170 SSMA family members gathered at the beautiful Doubletree Downtown in Little Rock, Arkansas and spent time catching up on events and happenings of the last year, exploring the restaurants and shops in the downtown area, visiting the Clinton Presidential Library, and, of course, presenting, participating, and learning from each other during incredible sessions. In keeping with the emphasis on growing our family, 60 new members joined us in Arkansas. Additionally, members mentored, shared, and learned both with and from 32 graduate students.

Special thanks go to Gil Naizer, Becky Sinclair, and Amy Corp for their work hosting and organizing this year's convention. Attendees had the opportunity to enjoy over 130 unique sessions including 63 research sessions, 47 regular sessions, 5 workshops, 3 syllabus sharings, and 2 quick fires. The research and regular sessions were 25 and 50 minutes in length to allow time to meet specific session needs.



In a throwback to David Letterman's Top Ten List, members shared their "Top Ten Reasons Why SSMA Stays at the Top of Their Stay Involved List" during a general session, reminding us all of what SSMA offers members and why we continue returning and staying involved.

Friday's keynote speaker, David Kersey, shared his journey from childhood doodling to Oscar winning animator. An Arkansas native, David regaled members with the story of how an introduction to a computer in high school allowed him to blend art and technology into a successful career in digital art and animation. Members were fascinated as David shared the unique art of "hair animation" through his work on films such as The Polar Express, The Chronicles of Narnia, Tangled, and Frozen (members were also greatly relieved when David confirmed that, although the Santa Claus in The Polar Express was not real, Father Christmas is the real deal!). David also revealed the ways in which he integrates mathematics and science within his work and how his current role as Executive Director for the New Design School in Fayetteville allows him to enhance digital art education and, thereby, provide students the opportunity to pursue and realize their dreams.

Before passing the gavel to me, President Stacy Reeder presented this year's Outstanding Dissertation Award to Dr. Luke Lyons, Outstanding Early Career Scholar Award to Dr. Stephanie Hathcock, and the Award for Excellence in Integrating Science and Mathematics to Dr. Suzanne Nesmith and Dr. Sandi Cooper.

Outstanding Early Career Scholar
Stephanie Hathcock

Dissertation Award
Luke Lyons

Award for Excellence in Integration Science and Mathematics
Suzanne Nesmith and Sandi Cooper

John Park Travel Awardees

Nine graduate students were the recipients of the John Park Student Travel Award, including Kurt Salisbury, Brandon Aigner, Ryann Shelton, Devon Gunter, Jessica Kwon, Shelly Wu, Allison Silveus, Ashley Delaney, and Cacey Wells.

A special highlight of the convention was the presentation of the George G. Mallinson Award to Dr. Julie Thomas, University of Nebraska-Lincoln and past executive director of SSMA. The Mallinson Award is presented to an educator who exemplifies the utmost lifetime level of teaching, service, and research.

Congratulations to all!

Mallinson Service Award
Julie Thomas

The proceedings of the 2018 Convention have been published, along with the proceedings of the previous four conventions. All convention proceedings are available at https://ssma.org/convention-proceedings/ and I encourage you to take time to review the fabulous work of our membership. Special thanks to Margaret Mohr-Schroeder and Jonathan Thomas for their work as proceedings editors.

Your SSMA Board of Directors met before and after the convention to discuss and address association business.

Board of Directors
Margaret Mohr-Schroeder,
University of Kentucky

Welcome to Sandi Cooper and Rayelynn Brandl, our two new board members, and thank you to departing board members, Ken Miller and Margaret Mohr-Schroder, for your years of service to the association.

Thank You to Our Outgoing Board Members 2015-2018

Board of Directors
Ken Miller
Owner of a Dump Truck

Thank you also to outgoing president Stacy Reeder for your leadership during the last two years. I am pleased and heartened to look to Stacy for suggestions and advice as she transitions to her role as Past President.

Finally, special thanks to SSMA Executive Directors Melanie Shores and Tommy Smith for all your assistance and efforts in making our convention such a wonderful event. This outstanding group of leaders, along with Journal Editors Carla Johnson and Shelly Harkness, and Newsletter Editor Georgia Cobbs, work diligently to assure that the association continues to thrive.

Plans for our 118th reunion/convention are well under way, and I look forward to seeing all SSMA family members in Salt Lake City, Utah on November 7 – 9, 2019. Elaine Tuft and Lynda Williams will serve as Program Chairs, and remember that it's never too early to begin making your plans to attend. See details below. .

See you in Salt Lake City!

Suzanne M. Nesmith

Some snapshots of our 2018 Convention

Join us for the 2019 SSMA Convention in beautiful

Salt Lake City, Utah!

November 7-9, 2019

Venue:
Hilton Salt Lake City Center
255 S W Temple
Salt Lake City, UT 84101
(801)328-2000

Call for Proposals Available: Monday, January 7, 2019
Proposal Submission Deadline: Friday, March 22, 2019
Proposal Acceptance Decision: Friday, May 31, 2019
Conference Chair: Elaine Tuft (elaine.tuft@uvu.edu)
Conference Co-chair: Lynda Williams (lynda.williams@uvu.edu)

2018 SSMA Proceedings Information

The 2018 convention will continue to feature a peer reviewed conference proceedings. Anyone accepted to present at the 2018 convention is invited to submit a paper! The papers – empirical or practitioner, not to exceed 8 pages including tables, figures, and references – are due AUGUST 1, 2018. Be sure that you follow the correct format – see SSMA Proceedings Guidelines and the templates at http://www.ssma.org. If you have any further questions, please contact us at ssmaproceedings@gmail.com

SSMA School Science and Mathematics Association Founded in 1901

LIFE UTAH ELEVATED

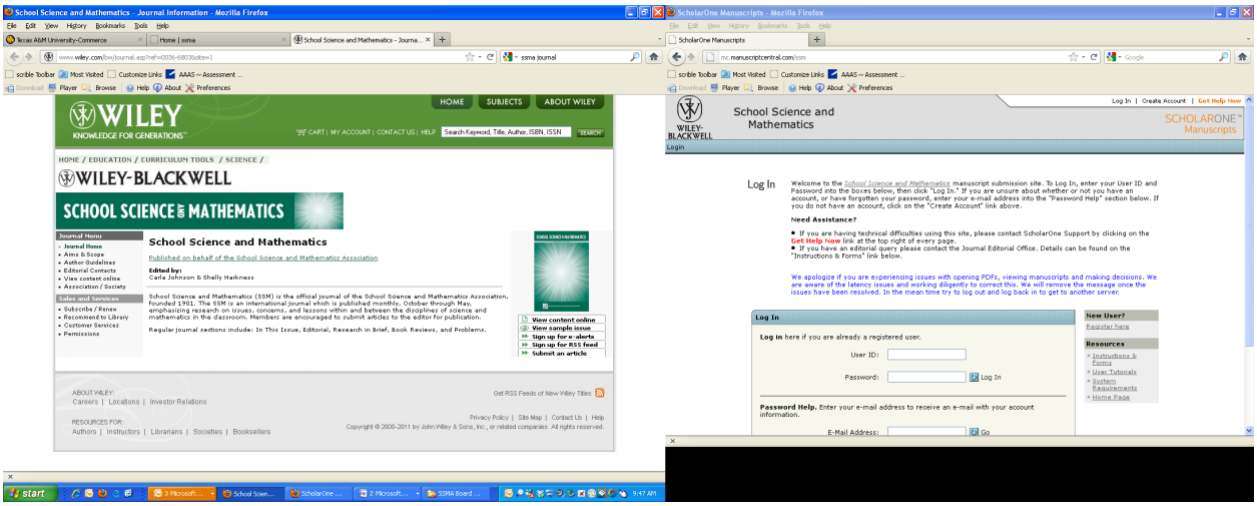
School Science and Mathematics, the SSMA Journal

Dr. Carla Johnson, Editor
carlacjohnson@purdue.edu

Dr. Shelly Harkness, Co-Editor
harkneml@ucmail.uc.edu

Please see an issue of the Journal or visit http://www.wiley.com/bw/journal.asp?ref=0036-6803 for more information about article submission. The journal's focus is on data-based research manuscripts on K-12 teaching or learning of science or mathematics, or their integration.

Manuscript submissions for *School Science and Mathematics* are now online through the ScholarOne website at http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/ssm. Hard copy submissions are no longer accepted. See the current issue of the journal for information about calls for manuscripts.



If you would like to be a Reviewer, please contact the Editors (carlacjohnson@purdue.edu or harkneml@ucmail.uc.edu). Reviewers prepare comments, reviews, and recommendations for 1-2 manuscripts a year in their area of specialization. Reviewers are needed in all areas of expertise, especially teacher preparation and professional development.

Want to serve on the Board or nominate someone to serve?

Nominations for SSMA Board of Directors

To nominate a candidate to serve on the SSMA Board of Directors, a petition of twenty-five (25) signatures can be sent to Sandi Cooper, Chair of the Nomination and Election Committee. Self-nominations are accepted as well.

Please contact:

Sandi Cooper
Mathematics Education
School of Education Baylor University Waco, TX
Sandra_Cooper@baylor.edu

Call for SSMA 2019 Awards

Deadline for submission of nominations: March 15, 2019

The SSMA Awards Committee invites the membership to submit nominees to be considered for the following awards:

- **GEORGE G. MALLINSON DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD**
  The award is given to those who have been a member of SSMA for at least ten (10) years and who have shown substantial participation and leadership in SSMA activities such as paper presentations at meetings, committee work, membership work, reviewing for journal, and so forth. Nomination is limited to SSMA members who are nominated by a current member of SSMA.
- **AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN INTEGRATING SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS**
  The award is given to a person or group who/which has fostered, promoted, and extended the integration of mathematics/science. The nominee should be a person or group who is active in science/mathematics education and in the development of curricula for the preparation of teachers, educational research, or other activities of significant educational value; thereby showing an impact on science/mathematics education. The competition is open to non-SSMA members but all applicants must be nominated by an SSMA member.
- **SSMA CONNECTIONS AWARD**
  The nominee should be a person working in K-12 who has been a leader of an exemplary teaching and learning project that is school-based and focused on connections between science and mathematics.
- **OUTSTANDING EARLY CAREER SCHOLAR AWARD**
  The nominee should be a person, within five years of receiving a doctoral degree, with an exemplary and productive program of research related to science and/or mathematics education. The nominee must be an SSMA member in good standing for at least 1 year prior to the submission of an application.
- **SSMA OUTSTANDING DISSERTATION AWARD**
  The Award is given for dissertations related to science education, mathematics education, or integrated science and mathematics education. Competition is open to non-members, but all applicants must be nominated by an SSMA member. The nominee's dissertation must have been completed within the last three years.

Criteria details for each award can be found online at http://www.ssma.org/award-descriptions-and-requirements. Any member of SSMA is free to nominate a person(s) satisfying the criteria noted above.

Send materials (for each award) electronically to Melanie L Shores (mshores@uab.edu), the SSMA office (office@ssma.org) and Christa Jackson (jacksonc@iastate.edu) prior to March 15, 2019.

About Our Organization…

SCHOOL SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS ASSOCIATION

School of Education

University of Alabama Birmingham

Birmingham, AL 35924

Phone

(205) 934-5067

E-Mail

office@ssma.org

We're on the Web!

See us at:

http://www.ssma.org/

Membership in the School Science and Mathematics Association is open to any person who supports the objectives of the Association, who has paid membership dues, and completed an application.

Benefits of SSMA Membership include:

- Membership in an association encompassing both science and mathematics teaching and learning.
- 8 issues of the official journal ***School Science and Mathematics.***
- 2 issues of the SSMA newsletter ***The Math-Science Connector.***
- Opportunities to submit presentation proposals for the Annual Convention.
- Voting privileges for Association business and election of officers.
- Opportunities to serve on an SSMA Committee or Leadership Team.

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Contact information for all SSMA Board Members and Committee Members can be found online at ***http://www.ssma.org/***

Georgia Cobbs Newsletter Editor