
Florida Academy of Sciences



Newsletter

Number 4

Rebecca Amonett, Editor

Winter 2003

University of Central Florida to Host 2003 Annual Meeting



The 67th Annual Meeting of the Florida Academy of Sciences is nearly upon us, and it promises to be a busy and productive event.

Scheduled for the University of Central Florida in Orlando, the meeting will include a special session on "Science and the Lake" (baseline environmental studies of Lake Okeechobee and its watershed). The 2003 FAS Medallist Address ("*Lessons from the sea*") will be delivered Friday evening (21 March) by Dr. John H. Trefry from Florida Institute of Technology. The Gale Plenary Lecture ("*Dead Mars, Dying Earth: Planetary Crisis and Recovery*") will be presented at 1 p.m. on Friday, 21 March, by Dr. John E. Brandenburg from the Florida Space Institute and UCF; Dr. Brandenburg's address will immediately follow the Annual Business Meeting of the Academy (12:30 p.m.) to be chaired by FAS President Barry Wharton.

The 2003 FAS Local Arrangements Co-Chairs are UCF's own Dr. Leslie Lieberman and Dr. Jack Stout; the co-chairs and Ms. Fran Ragsdale have spent nearly eight months in preparation for the meeting, and all signs point to a smooth-running program. Dr. Jeremy Montague (Barry University) became the new FAS Program Chair in June 2002, taking over from Dr. Donald Lovejoy. Dr. Lovejoy graciously shared all his electronic files and templates with Dr. Montague, giving FAS an excellent head start on the program for the 2003 meeting. Session chairs collected abstracts during autumn 2002. The Advanced Program (a listing of

presentation titles and authors) and the full Program Book (Supplement 1 to Volume 66 of the *Florida Scientist*) went to FAS in early February 2003. Dr. Montague counted 206 abstracts (190 oral presentations plus 16 posters, and a total of 398 authors) in the Program Book. Several late submissions will appear in an addendum to the program in March 2003. Dr. Montague sends his thanks to all the session chairs for their hard work and attention to detail (Dr. Rick Copeland, Dr. Mark Wade, Dr. Linda Taylor, Dr. John Windsor, Dr. Dan McCarthy, Mr. David Karlen, Dr. Jacci White, Dr. Siamack Bondari, Mr. Al Hall, Dr. Cherie Geiger, Dr. I. Jack Stout, Ms. Laura Finn, Dr. Gary Maddox, Dr. Arvind Dhople, Dr. Roseann White, Dr. Hamid Rassoul, Dr. Robin Jordan, Dr. Maribeth Durst, and Mr. Daniel Moss). Dr. Montague also thanks Ms. Rebecca Amonett (FAS), Dr. Elizabeth Hays (Barry University), and Barry Wharton for good advice and extra help.

We look forward to seeing you all in Orlando!

-Contributed by Dr. Jeremy Montague, Barry University



University of Central Florida

Message from the President



*Mr. Barry Wharton,
HDR Engineering, Inc.*

As my two-year term as President of the Academy draws to a close, I thought I'd take the opportunity to take a look back, review some accomplishments I am proud of, and point out some areas I believe we need to address in the months and years ahead.

Positives. The Academy has made real progress on several fronts. Our website has leaped into the 21st Century, thanks in no small part to the tireless efforts of webmasters Dan Odell and Lonnie Braden. We now have our own domain name (floridaacademyofsciences.org) and entirely revised content. Now you're but a couple mouse clicks away from getting information about the Academy, its officers and Council members, meeting schedules, the upcoming annual meeting, Medalist and Student Award recipients, and our charter and bylaws. You can peruse our current and past newsletters for a behind-the-scenes look. If you're interested in submitting a manuscript for publication in our journal, *Florida Scientist*, simply click on "Instructions to Authors," or if you'd like to familiarize yourselves with the contents the recent issue of the *Florida Scientist*, or the contents of the past six volumes (back to 1996), you'll find a link ready to take you there. Here you'll find a list of the articles published in each issue (including abstracts), authors, and keywords. If you want to submit an abstract for the next annual meeting, there's an abstract submittal form that can be filled out on-line and emailed to the appropriate section chair. Another very important feature of our website, one that has helped boost membership, is the availability of on-line annual meeting registration and membership applications/renewals.

We are privileged to have Cherie Geiger as incoming Academy President. Dr. Geiger, assistant professor of chemistry at UCF, specializes in environmental chemistry and has done research in air, water, and soil pollution, characterization, and remediation. Our new program chair, Jeremy Montague (Barry U.), took over for our previous and very capable program chair, Don Lovejoy (Palm Beach Atlantic Coll.). With the support of all the section chairs, Jeremy has assembled over papers for the 2003 annual meeting.

We have several new Council members to complement our veteran councilors, and each has taken on important duties. The Academy continues to greatly benefit from the continuing service and dedicated efforts of Dean and Barbara Martin (journal co-editors), Richard Turner (journal business manager), and Georgina Wharton (treasurer), and others to numerous to mention. Despite the dreadful market, the Florida Endowment for the Sciences remains in fairly good shape. We have seated three new trustees for the Endowment (Dean Martin, Don Lovejoy, and George Dooris). We have pledged continued support to the Florida Junior Academy of Science.

We are to have to say goodbye to our Executive Secretary for the past three years, Natalie Smith. Her efforts on behalf of the Academy have been invaluable. We look forward to working with Natalie's successor, Rebecca Amonett. Rebecca has some hard shoes to fill, but she brings strong organizational and public relations skills to the job. I'm sure she'll be a tremendous asset to the Academy.

Just in case Dr. Geiger thinks I left her nothing to do as our next president, allow me to burst that bubble at the outset. From the preceding, I'm sure you'll agree we've made some real progress on several fronts. However, there remain a number of tough issues that we must face. We need to secure long-term funding to underwrite the Executive Secretary's position. We need to work to get the *Florida Scientist* added to the ISI Journal Citation Reports database. Finally, we need to strengthen our relationship with the Orlando Science Center. I'm sure there are other issues that will demand our attention, but I think Cherie gets the idea. I'm sure she'll rise to the challenge.

We had a very successful 2002 annual meeting at Barry University. I have every confidence that the 2003 annual meeting at the University of Central Florida will be a resounding success. I hope to see you all there.

FAS Member News

Leslie Sue Lieberman, Ph.D. was elected President of the Biological Anthropology Section of the American Anthropological Association.

In addition, Dr. Lieberman received a grant from the Winter Park Health Foundation to produce a Health Ethnography of Orange County. The grant employed 2 UCF students and student from UF. The research is part of a larger local and national effort to reduce disparity among minority populations.

Dean Martin, an editor for the *Florida Scientist* since 1984, received a plaque of appreciation from the American Chemical Society for serving as a tour speaker in the New England circuit. His first ACS tour was in September 1968.

Joseph L. Simon, Professor of Biology at the University of South Florida, has formally retired after 40 years of service. He served as President of the FAS in 1980.

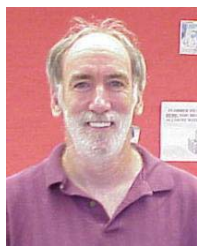
For a complete list of FAS council members and section chairs, and information on membership, bylaws, annual meetings, online registration, and links to other academies, visit our website at: www.floridaacademyofsciences.org.

Questions may also be directed to our Director's office at the Orlando Science Center; phone: (407) 514-2079, email: gbierv-hamilton@osc.org

A Special Thanks to the Local Arrangements Chair and Program Chair for 2003 Annual Meeting Preparation:



Leslie Sue Lieberman, Ph.D.
University of Central Florida



Jeremy Montague, Ph.D.
Barry University

Upcoming Events



Student Union, University of Central Florida
2003 Annual Meeting Venue

- The next quarterly council meeting will be at the University of Central Florida, on March 20th at 7 p.m.
- The 67th Annual Meeting will be held in the Student Union at University of Central Florida, March 21st-22nd.

A Case of Whodunnit at the OSC

Walk into a crime scene and use your powers of observation to solve a crime while exploring scientific principles, methods, and technologies employed by criminal investigators. Learn the skills of this fascinating trade at Orlando Science Center's newest exhibit, *Whodunnit? The Science of Solving Crime*. (Feb-May 2003).

Now playing at the OSC Cinedome (through Summer 2003):

Lewis & Clark
Coral Reef
Star Quest

Thank you to our Contributors:

Dr. Jeremy Montague, Barry University
Dr. Leslie Lieberman, University of Central Florida
Mr. Barry Wharton, HDR Engineering, Inc.
Drs. Dean and Barbara Martin, *Florida Scientist* Editors
Ms. Natalie Smith, University of Florida
Ms. Rebecca Amonett, FAS Executive Secretary