
Florida Academy of Sciences

E news



FAS Office *Edward A. Haddad, Executive Director : Julie Regier, Office Manager* December 2005

Seasons Greetings

We in the Office wish each of you a peaceful and joyous holiday season.. To those of you who are traveling – safety..To those of you working on projects and papers during semester break – progress and achievement. To all of you – a healthy and prosperous New Year! It has been a great year for FAS. Much progress has been made on many fronts. Thanks to all of you for your support and patience.

From the Office

As the year counts down towards its end, we are launching our first E news letter. Its purpose is to keep you informed of major activities in FAS. Inasmuch as most of us receive much more E-mail than we need, we will make every effort to keep this limited to one page!

Most of you are familiar with our website:

<http://www.floridaacademyofsciences.org/>

If you have not visited our website, please do so by clicking on the link above. Every effort is made to post important news about the Academy on the website and to provide the forms you need to renew your membership and submit registrations for our Annual Meetings. If at anytime you have questions or suggestions regarding our website, please send them to the office.

We often receive E-mail or phone calls from people asking if we have sent out invoices to members for renewing their membership. It is not our practice to send out invoices for membership renewals. In the fall season of the year, we send out an E-mail reminder to the membership to renew their membership for the coming year and to process their Annual Meeting registrations. This is one of the many reasons it is very important that we have your current E-mail address on file here in the office. We want to make every effort to conduct all of our correspondence via E mail. You may be assured that your e-mail address is never released to other agencies, etc.

Annual Meeting Preparations

Preparations for each FAS Annual Meeting really begin right after the previous year's Annual Meeting ends. So the wheels have been turning for our 70th Anniversary Annual Meeting for some months now. Many of you are working on abstracts for presentations at the Meeting which are now due. The physical arrangements for the Meeting are well in hand. The details for the Meeting (locations, times, accommodations, etc) are to be found on the FAS website. We would like to urge you to submit both your applications for renewal of FAS membership and your reservations for the Annual Meeting and Banquet as soon as possible.

From the President

John H. Trefry

Happy 2006 and 70th anniversary of the Academy. I am looking forward to an exciting and productive year. Here's a partial preview (Ed gave me just 5 cm of space):

- 70th Annual Meeting and 25th Anniversary Indian River Symposium, March 10 and 11 at FIT, Melbourne.

There's still time to submit an abstract.

- Increased collaboration/support with corporate sponsors.
- Joint programs to promote Florida Science with the Orlando Science Center (e.g., Scope, Ask a Scientist).
- Effort to increase membership, increase the number of submissions to the journal and to be a stronger promoter and advocate for science in Florida.

Joint Efforts with OSC

As many of you know, the FAS Office and headquarters is located in the Orlando Science Center (OSC). OSC has hosted the Academy for several years now. One of the cornerstones of the FAS mission is to be THE agency for science advocacy in the state of Florida and to take a pro-active role in increasing the level of scientific literacy in Florida. OSC is a place where the public encounters science. There is much synergy in the relationship between FAS and OSC.

We have many opportunities to cooperate and pursue joint ventures. As John mentions above, we are launching the Ask A Scientist Program where Experts from the Academy will provide answers to questions submitted by the general public to OSC. OSC also publishes an excellent magazine, "Scope", which contains interesting articles and science related stories in a format that is appealing to readers of all ages. In all future issues of "Scope", FAS will have an article prepared by one of our members. Some of you will be asked to contribute to these articles and stories and I am sure you will find it rewarding to reach out to the general public with your expertise.

Happenings at OSC

If you have not taken the time to visit Orlando Science Center, please do so! There are many exciting things happening here. Please refer to the OSC website <http://www.osc.org/> to view the exciting upcoming events, particular Otronicon, which shows how science and math are linked to video game technology and spotlights Orlando's role as a creative center for the development of interactive entertainment.