

Florida Academy of Sciences

E news



FAS Office Edward A. Haddad, Executive Director : Julie Regier, Office Manager June 2007

From the Executive Director

Welcome to all our many new members. We hope you will find your membership in the Academy to be rewarding. It is our goal to have members representing every college and university in the state of Florida. Many of you know, I am sure, that there is a great deal of concern about the state of science and technology education and literacy in Florida – and throughout the U.S. Increasing attention to this is being paid both on a state and national level and more funding is being devoted to it.

It is very important that the general public, government officials, and educational personnel be made more aware of the Florida Academy of Sciences and our efforts to support and foster science here in Florida. To that end, we are working on new public information packets and expanding our publicity efforts. We are also planning to upgrade and restructure our website. Please let us know if you have any suggestions for enhancing the website or have any links you think would be appropriate to include on our website.

Congratulations to our President!

Our president, Dr. Daniel K. Odell, has just been named recipient of the Mark Keyes Award for Marine Mammal Conservation awarded by the International Association for Aquatic Animal Medicine. This award is given to a scientist who in his/her activities within the past 10 years has made a significant impact on the conservation of one or more species of marine mammals. Dr. Odell, who is currently associated with the Hubbs-SeaWorld Research Institute, received the award in recognition of his many years of successful efforts in marine mammal conservation.

From the Annual Meeting

Please refer to our website to review the list of awards that resulted from presentations at the annual meeting. Also notice that there is a nomination form for medalist. Please feel free to use that form to nominate a person you believe would merit receiving the Academy's Medal at our annual meeting next year.



The Executive Director with outgoing President, John Trefry, left, and new President, Dan Odell, holding the gavel of office.

From the President

Well, time certainly has flown by since our very successful meeting in St. Petersburg on the University of South Florida campus. Everyone is to be congratulated for making the meeting a success. Despite a little wind, I note that our poster session is getting bigger and better each year. Julie and Ed have been busy in the FAS office with all of the post-conference 'thank you' letters and student award notifications.

And speaking of meetings, it is not too early to mark your calendars for the 2008 joint annual meeting with the Georgia Academy of Science at Jacksonville University, March 14-15, 2008. John Trefry is coordinating with the Georgia Academy and Dan McCarthy will be handling the local arrangements for us. Remind your students and colleagues to mark their calendars as well. The FAS meeting is a great place for students to meet their colleagues (and maybe even potential employers or graduate advisors) and to practice their technical presentation skills. The 2008 meeting promises to be a unique event.

Have you renewed your FAS membership for this year? If not, there is no time like the present. Consider moving your membership up a level. FAS membership is a bargain.

If your life is anything like mine, spring has been a busy time writing reports, teaching, reviewing manuscripts and research proposals, attending a never-ending stream of meetings, planning summer field work and trying to fit in a little research at the same time. Looking for something a little extra to do in your spare time? The FAS runs primarily on volunteer power. Interested in helping out with a section in your field of expertise; judging Junior Academy science projects and papers (when the time comes next spring); serving on Academy committees? Do you have any ideas as to how the Academy can increase its impact on science education (at all levels) in Florida? Do you know of any granting organizations (public or private) that might be interested in funding FAS activities?

The Academy welcomes your input. Contact any Council member or the Academy office.

Daniel K. Odell

CONTEST!

The Academy wants to develop a bumper sticker focused on science. This sticker would be sold at a nominal cost here at the Orlando Science Center and then at other suitable venues in Florida and the proceeds realized used to support the work of the Academy. We are asking you to think of a good slogan for the bumper sticker...something like "Support Science in Florida!" Please send us your suggestions. The winner will be announced in the early fall and will receive next year's student or regular membership as a prize! Just E-mail us at floridaacademyofsciences@osc.org. Thanks from the office!