



Volume 6,
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*What's going on in
the North Carolina
Academy of Science:*

- Announcing
2017 CASCAS
Workshop
- Dues Notice

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President's Letter

By: Dr. Alan Goble, Bennett College

Dear Members and Supporters,

I am proud to have been affiliated with NCAS as a member for over 20 years, as an officer and Board Member for 18 years, and now to serve as President of NCAS until the Annual Meeting in 2018 at Wake Technical College.

The North Carolina Academy of Science, founded in 1902, is a non-profit organization whose mission is to *promote public appreciation of science, science education, scientific research and a meaningful role for science in public policy*. Our organization consists of three main divisions--the Senior Academy (NCAS), for academic and industry scientists, and graduate students, the Collegiate Academy (CASCAS), for undergraduate students, and the Student Academy (NCSAS), for middle- and high school students.

The Academy publishes one of the oldest continuously published science journals in America, the *Journal of the North Carolina Academy of Science* (JNCAS), now in its 133rd volume. JNCAS is a peer-reviewed, online journal that uses continuous publication, which means that articles are published immediately upon their acceptance and final editing rather than waiting until enough articles to constitute an issue are finalized. This gives our readers quicker access to new research. We also have a presence on Facebook and Twitter as we try to stay abreast of current trends in communication.

We live in an exciting, as well as a scary time for science. In these days of fake news and a maelstrom of conflicting information and opinions, it is even more important for us all to be scientifically literate. NCAS is committed to promoting scientific literacy and in combating misinformation about scientific issues. There is reason to have hope that things may be improving. This Spring saw the March for Science in Washington and in many cities around the country (including several in North Carolina), and the turnout showed very strong support for science. This summer, there was a total solar eclipse that energized millions of people to be curious about science. Earlier this week, the Cassini probe made a spectacular plunge into Saturn's atmosphere and drew the attention of millions to another scientific endeavor that started over 20 years ago. There will be more to come, so let's take advantage of these opportunities to nurture people's interest in science.

I urge you all to remain curious about the world and about the scientific pursuit of knowledge. Together, we can help to make our world a better place.

Yours in Science,

Dr. Alan Goble, NCAS President 2017-2018
goble@bennett.edu



Dr. Alan Goble

**Join us for the 115th NCAS Annual Meeting on March 23rd
& 24th, 2018 at Wake Technical Community College!**

Collaborate, Communicate, Contribute—Connecting Scientists with the Public



NCAS News!

Sun Shines on Astronomy Days Exhibit 2017

Report by: Lisa Kelly, UNC Pembroke

The following is a reprint of a report from earlier this year. Astronomy Days is an annual event that NCAS members participate in regularly. We hope you can join us when the 2018 date rolls around.

Academy volunteers engaged hundreds of children and their parents in science during Astronomy Days at the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences in Raleigh. Nearly 15,000 visitors attended the museum's two-day event, which ran from January 28-29 (Saturday-Sunday). The excitement was palpable.

Academy activities were comfortably stationed in the spacious Curiosity Classroom on the third floor of the museum. The Academy's theme, "Solar Powered Life and the Goldilocks Effect," was in step with the Astronomy Days theme of "The Sun and other Stars." Plants and other solar powered forms of life were in the spotlight, but as true of last year, living tardigrades and vinegar eels were among the Academy's most popular activities. Games were offered that featured genetic traits, extreme environments, and plant-animal relationships. Volunteers handed out more than 200 miniature planter necklaces, 120 3D NASA glasses, 40 genetics wheels, and 100 drawing sheets.

This was a great example of public outreach and a great example of teamwork; more than 20 volunteers helped with the Academy's exhibit. Special "thanks" go to those people who helped recruit volunteers or who created activities and demonstrations, or who volunteered big chunks of their time: Maria Pickering (Co-Organizer), Ashley Allen, Hira Ansari, Vanessa Cupil-Garcia, Francie Cuffney, Jim Fuller, Anu Hanumanthu, Shana Lee McAlexander, Mark McCallum, Miranda Dowdy (of the museum) and the Collegiate Academy. Special thanks go to Meredith College for providing a record number of student volunteers!



First NCAS Annual Dues Notice

3 Free Months! Announcing our adjusted membership year, March 1st-February 28th. This new schedule is designed to better align with the annual meeting timing in the early spring. Your member contributions help support programs and maintain the viability of the Academy. Please renew your membership! Visit the membership tab on www.ncacadsci.org to pay your dues today!

For more information, contact the Academy Secretary (Maria Pickering: mpickering@meredith.edu) or Membership Committee Chair (Scott Johnson: stjohnson@waketech.edu).

CANCAS Workshop Announcement

Report by: Jawuanna McAllister, CANCAS President, NC Wesleyan College

The Collegiate Academy of the NCAS will be hosting its annual fall undergraduate research workshop at Campbell University on November 4th, 2017 in collaboration with the State of NC Undergraduate Research & Creativity Symposium (SNCURCS) Conference! We would love for you to join us in our workshop series and learn about how to create scientific posters, write scientifically, and network as a college student! SNCURCS registration is coming soon at: <http://sncurcs.org/registration/>.

CANCAS 2017–2018 Officers

President:

Jawuanna McAllister, NC Wesleyan College

Vice-President:

Sean Bryant, Lenoir-Rhyne University

Secretary:

Renelsa Blackman, Lenoir-Rhyne University

Historian:

Anne Elkins, Nash-Community College

If you'd like to be involved in CANCAS, contact Dr. Beth Cauley (cauley@campbell.edu) or Dr. Daniel Stovall (dstovall@ncwc.edu)!

Job Openings in the Scientific Community

1. Assistant Professor of Biology, NC Wesleyan College, Rocky Mount, NC

The Department of Biology seeks a biologist with a passion for teaching who uses conventional and innovative instructional strategies to begin August 2018. Primary teaching duties are introductory biology courses. Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled.

2. Assistant Professor of Physics, Davidson College, Davidson, NC

The Davidson College Physics Department invites applications for a tenure-track position at the level of Assistant Professor in the area of Experimental Physics starting July 1, 2018. We seek an experimentalist who will teach upper-level laboratory courses (modern physics, electronics & instrumentation, and advanced laboratory), introductory courses and laboratories, and intermediate and advanced theory courses. Apply online by November 1, 2017; see website for details.

Do you have exciting news to share with the NCAS Family? Let the publication committee know, and we can highlight your news!
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Thanks to Meredith College for hosting our Home Office and NC Academy of Science Headquarters!



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Check us out on the web!
<http://www.ncacadsci.org/home.html>

The **objective** of the North Carolina Academy of Science is to "encourage the advancement of science within the state of North Carolina by promotion of scientific research and by the fostering of education in the sciences". The North Carolina Academy of Science meets these objectives by...

- Publishing a peer reviewed scholarly journal, the *Journal of the North Carolina Academy of Science*.
- Fostering and encouraging student involvement in the sciences through support of the Collegiate (CANCAS) and Student Academies (NCSAS).
- Promoting interactions among scientists and students throughout North Carolina.
- Providing a forum for exchange of ideas for solving issues important to North Carolina.

The Academy members include individuals from academia, industry, government, and all others who support the objectives and goals of the Academy.

North Carolina Academy of Science

Our Mission

The North Carolina Academy of Science promotes public appreciation of science, science education, scientific research and a meaningful role for science in public policy.

Our Goals:

Promote public appreciation of science

- Partnership with Science Centers
- Public Lecture Series
- Newsletter

Promote science education

- NCAS Webpage
- Academic Lecture Series
- NCAS Publications: Journal, Educational Publications
- Student Academy - Middle & High School

Promote scientific research

- Yarbrough and Bryden Research Grants
- CANCAS Undergraduate Research Workshop
- Presentation Opportunities at Annual Meetings
- Journal of the North Carolina Academy of Science

Promote science in public policy

- Symposia
- News Releases
- Position Statements
- Interactions with Public Officials

