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

- Annual Meeting Highlight
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NCAS Annual Meeting Highlight

By: Dr. Brandie Littlefield, Assistant Professor of Biology, Wake Technical Community College and Scott Johnson, Associate Professor of Biology, Wake Technical Community College

Wake Technical Community College is excited and honored to be the first community college to host the North Carolina Academy of Sciences Annual Meeting! The 115th Annual Meeting on March 23-24, 2018, will host a diverse and interdisciplinary group of students and faculty from public and private institutions across the state, ensuring lots of opportunities for networking, collaboration, and scientific discovery!

Our conference theme is **Collaborate, Communicate, Contribute – Connecting Scientists with the Public**. Our goal is to encourage students and faculty to think beyond collaboration within traditional academia by moving towards community outreach and education. We challenge all our participants to actively pursue ways that their research can contribute to and engage with local communities. Our keynote speaker is Michael A. Palladino, Ph.D., Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Professor of Biology at Monmouth University. Dr. Palladino has a distinguished career in the research of male reproduction, and has authored several textbooks on biotechnology and genetics. His experience in both research and education provides a unique opportunity to discuss the challenges intrinsic to science outreach and education and we look forward to his keynote address!



Friday evening poster sessions will be held at the Student Services Building L on Wake Tech's Southern Campus accompanied by heavy hors d'oeuvres. Saturday will be packed with oral presentations, workshops, a Student Academy showcase, and our keynote address. Lunch and coffee break snacks will be provided. The day's events will culminate in a student award ceremony with light snacks.

We are still working on finalizing all the workshops. One workshop will host a panel of scientists and educators working outside of traditional academia to give students insight into other career opportunities that merge research with community outreach. A second workshop will feature undergraduate research opportunities at community colleges. Stay tuned for the finalized workshop schedule!

Registration will be open at the end of January. The deadline for abstract submissions and registration is March 9, 2018.



Dr. Brandie Littlefield



Mr. Scott Johnson

For details, please visit <https://www.waketech.edu/about-wake-tech/divisions/mathematics-sciences-engineering/ncas> or contact Dr. Brandie Littlefield (blittlefield@waketech.edu) or Scott Johnson (stjohnson@waketech.edu), the co-chairs of the Local Arrangements Committee.

NCAS News & Reports!

Join the Academy's Galactic Mission during Astronomy Days!

Report by: Dr. Lisa Kelly, UNC-Pembroke & Dr. Maria Pickering, Meredith College

If you have stardust in your eyes, if you love gazing up at the heavens, or if you enjoy small children and the excitement of discovery, consider volunteering a few hours of your time this coming January. The North Carolina Academy of Science will be hosting an exhibit for Astronomy Days on 27-28 January 2018. This year's theme is "Space Telescopes and Missions!" The Academy is looking for energetic volunteers who can contribute one or more two- or three-hour shifts from 8:30 AM until 5:30 PM on Saturday (January 27) and from 11:30 AM until 5:30 PM on Sunday (January 28). If you would like to volunteer or have ideas for simple, inexpensive hands-on science activities, please contact the Academy's exhibit co-coordinators: Lisa Kelly (lisa.kelly@uncp.edu or 910-521-6377) or Maria Pickering (mpickering@meredith.edu or 919-760-8437). This would be a great opportunity for Student Academy and Collegiate Academy students and their mentors. No special skills are required, and ideally four or more volunteers will be available during each time slot. The Academy's exhibit at the museum last January was a big hit, drawing crowds of excited children and their parents.



Dues Notice

Our adjusted membership year, March 1st- February 28th 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!

Call for Yarbrough Grant Applications

Yarbrough Grants fund undergraduate research conducted by freshmen, sophomores, and juniors across the state. Students must be a Collegiate Academy member and have a research advisor who is a member of the Senior Academy. Applications are due by **April 15, 2018**. For more information, please contact Dr. Scott Robertson (srobertson@methodist.edu) or Dr. Jordan Womick (womickj@campbell.edu).

Call for Bryden Grant Applications

One Bryden Grant is in the NCAS budget for the 2017-18 academic year! Applications are invited from members of NCAS. Deadline for receipt of all application materials is **February 28, 2018**. Award monies cover research equipment and/or expenses related to attending scientific conferences. Please send all materials to Dr. Lei Zhang (zhangl@wssu.edu) and Dr. Mark McCallum (mark.mccallum@pfeiffer.edu).

CANCAS Calls for Judges & Moderators

Judges & Moderators are needed for the 2018 Annual NCAS Meeting! We are seeking judges to score Friday evening posters & Saturday oral presentations. You'll be asked to judge either the poster session or oral presentation session, and then collaboratively with your group you will select Derieux winners in your area. This is a wonderful way to help foster and grow our undergraduate researchers, and participate in the Annual Meeting! We also invite volunteers for moderators. Moderators will preside over oral presentations on Saturday at the Annual Meeting. Moderators can be graduate students, undergraduate students, or faculty from any content area.

If you're interested, please email Dr. Beth Cauley (at cauley@campbell.edu) or indicate your interest on your Annual Meeting registration form. Thank you for your commitment to mentoring & facilitating undergraduate research!



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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

