

HaSTA Chemistry Section Report  
Board Meeting: October 9, 2008 at Iolani School

The Chemistry Section met for the first time this school year on September 20, 2008 at the Maryknoll School HS campus on Punahou Street.

After the first invitation by e-mail to the HaSTA listserve, only a couple of teachers responded. However, Barbara and I sent the invitation again, and we also tried to reach – by phone - people we knew were chemistry teachers. Eventually we had several teachers committed to come to the first meeting.

The meeting started promptly at 10:00 am.

There were fifteen of us at the meeting. The teachers were from the DOE, Private Schools, and the Community Colleges.

After introductions, Barbara presented and distributed a packet of resource materials from the Journal of Chemical Education, particularly the CTC (Chemistry Teacher Connection). Namthip Sitachitta of Millilani HS informed the group about Chemistry Week and the Poster Contest. Chemistry Week falls on the week of October 23. Charlene Higa distributed handouts that she brought to share with the group.

Teachers expressed having meetings along specific themes such as (a) assessment, (b) Gas Laws, (c) Safety (d) “Green” chemistry, etc.

Future meetings have been scheduled as follows:

November 22 2008 – as a session at the HaSTA Fall Conference  
(pending OK from Jeff Piontek)

February 7 2009 - Kapiolani Community College (courtesy of Harry Davis)

May 2 2009 - Windward Community College (courtesy of Leticia Colmenares)

At the end of the meeting we gave away door prizes. These door prizes include (a) Molecular models donated by Gail Peiterson (Punahou School), (b) NSTA publications, and (c) a \$40 subscription to the CTC.

Our list of teachers includes several more who were unable to come to the first meeting but have expressed interest in attending future meetings.

The meeting ended at 12:00 noon.

Reported by:  
Barbara Rogers and  
Consuelo Rogers

