

**From:** Howard Wahlberg <hwahlberg@nsta.org>  
**Subject:** FW: 2009 National Congress on Science Education - Miami  
**Date:** April 6, 2009 6:00:56 AM HST

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Howard

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**From:** cag-request@list.nsta.org [<mailto:cag-request@list.nsta.org>] **On Behalf Of** Theresa Nicely  
**Sent:** Monday, April 06, 2009 10:47 AM  
**To:** [cag@list.nsta.org](mailto:cag@list.nsta.org)  
**Subject:** 2009 National Congress on Science Education - Miami



**2009 National Congress on Science Education  
July 15–18, 2009  
Miami, Florida**

April 2009

Dear Chapter and Associated Groups Presidents:

The *National Congress on Science Education* (NCSE) has been scheduled for Wednesday, July 15 through Saturday, July 18, 2009, and I would like to invite you to be a part of this professionally rewarding meeting. This event initiates conversation, engages the participants, and compels action on issues that affect all who are interested in quality science education. This is an opportunity for the leadership of the chapters and associated groups, the NSTA Council, the NSTA Board of Directors, and NSTA staff to work collaboratively toward strategies that will support our mission, "... to promote excellence and innovation in science teaching and learning for all."

This is an exciting as well as a critical time in science education. NSTA is building the John Glenn Center for Science Education, which will offer many resources and opportunities for science educators. Since 2009 has been designated as the Year of Science, it is appropriate to celebrate the advent of this new facility during this year.

Although the leaders of your association are generally asked to attend Congress, I would like to encourage you to extend to others the invitation to attend, especially those who may be future leaders of your organization. If you ever have had the opportunity to be a Congress participant, then you know that this experience provides excellent professional development for individual participants, as well as serving as a unique opportunity for diverse voices to be

heard across the science education landscape. The more voices we hear, the more informed our decisions will be.

The Congress Planning Committee, whose names are listed at the end of this letter, has designated “The 3 Rs of Science Teacher Retention” as its theme for the 2009 Congress. It has also identified strands, collected resources, and developed a schedule of events that will allow for a rewarding professional development experience as well as opportunities to chart the growth of both your organization and NSTA. After the opening plenary session, our issues forums will focus on various facets of retention, including resources for, respect for, and renewal of science educators. The program this year promises to be one that will both inspire you emotionally and provide you with the tools to excel professionally. We hope to see you in Miami!

### **Hotel Information**

The hotel we will be using is the Hyatt Regency in Miami. Since special room rates have been arranged, you should not make reservations at this time. You will be notified when the room block is available.

### **Social Events**

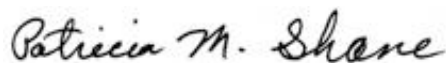
In addition to the nightly opportunities to visit the sites of Miami, we are planning a group dinner and visit to the Miami Science Museum on Friday night. This is an event you will not want to miss!

We are working hard to plan what should be an excellent professional development opportunity for you and the others in leadership roles in your organization. This is your opportunity to share your ideas and to help guide the direction of science education in the future. Mark your calendars and watch for more information.

Join the conversation. We hope to see you in Miami!

Questions? Contact the NSTA Chapter Relations Department at [chapters@nsta.org](mailto:chapters@nsta.org) or (703) 312-9364, or (866) 737-6713.

Sincerely,



Pat Shane  
NSTA President-Elect, 2008–2009  
[pshane@unc.edu](mailto:pshane@unc.edu)

2009 National Congress on Science Education Planning Committee:

- Ross Dinwiddie, President, Nebraska Science Teachers Association
- Mike Hickey, Past-President, Science Education Council of Ohio
- Craig Gabler, NSTA District XVII Director
- Paul Keidel, NSTA District IX Director
- Melissa Miller, NSTA District VII Director
- Kelly Price, NSTA District V Director
- Jim Puckett, NSTA District XI Director
- Sheila Smith, President, Mississippi Science Teachers Association

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