

**From:** "Minaya, Carmela" <cminaya@hanalani.org>  
**Subject:** **FW: FREE new book by Sheila Tobias on HS science teaching profession**  
**Date:** June 24, 2009 11:30:47 AM HST  
**To:** hasta-l@hawaii.edu

---

A trusted colleague sent this to me and I want to share it with all of you. Read it, save it, and pass it on to whoever will listen that can make a difference in bringing back the professional status of teachers! Have a great summer!

Sheila Tobias has a new book, FREE online:  
"Science Teaching as a Profession: Why It Isn't How It Could Be" [Tobias & Baffert (2009).

She wrote it with a high school science teacher. I strongly encourage you to read it! It will empower you to make a positive difference collectively.

Download it at <http://www.rescorp.org> (halfway down the webpage).

Sheila Tobias is a long-time friend, colleague, sociological researcher and scholar who is deeply committed to better science education. She 'walks the talk', taking big constructive actions for better science education and better science. You may have read her excellent book, 'They're not Dumb, They're Different: Stalking the Second Tier'. Or her earlier book, 'Overcoming Math Anxiety'. She lives in Tucson, Arizona.  
cheers,  
Jane

**NOTES:**

In his foreword to the book, Gerald Wheeler, Emeritus Executive Director of the National Science Teachers Association writes (my CAPS):

"Tobias and Baffert address the central issue in science education today. The professional stature of the science teacher - conspicuously absent from current prescriptions for improving science education - is their primary focus. Beginning in 1983 with 'A Nation at Risk,' numerous reports and studies have collectively covered the waterfront of possible reasons for the failure of science education and efforts to reform it, WHILE NEGLECTING THE IMPORTANCE OF THE PROFESSIONAL STATURE OF SCIENCE TEACHERS. Consequently stakeholders from policymakers to parents have overlooked the profound consequences of the steady decline in the status of science teachers. . . . . This book is a must-read for anybody seriously interested in supporting a reform movement that will stick. It's well

written and accessible for both lay and professional audiences. It is a first step in addressing a facet of science education too long ignored. The transformation of science education that we need to produce the next generation of informed citizens will come through the leadership, responsibility and accountability of professional science teachers."

The CONTENTS are:

Note from the Publisher.....	iv
Foreword by Gerald F. Wheeler.....	vi
Acknowledgments.....	viii
A Note on Methodology .....	x
1 An Overview.....	1
Sidebar: Avoiding Future Shortfalls: Attracting and Keeping Gen Y in Teaching..	9
2 Attrition: Why It Matters.....	1
Sidebar: Close-ups.....	22
3 How Did Teaching First Gain and Then Lose Its Professional Status?.....	31
Sidebar: The Elements of the Professions...	38
4 The Long Shadow of No Child Left Behind: Single-faceted Accountability.....	43
5 The Essentials Under Siege.....	57
Part I: Teacher Pay.....	57
Sidebar: What About That Vaunted Long Summer Vacation?.....	67
Part II: Tenure.....	68
Part III: Unions.....	73
6 Ongoing Efforts to Elevate Teachers' Capability and Status.....	81
Case 1: National Board Certification.....	83
Case 2: Professional Learning Communities.....	89
7 Engaging Science Teachers in the Wider World of Science.....	95
8 Science Teaching Elsewhere: Spotlight on Finland.....	107
9 Empowering Science Teachers to Lead.....	113
About the Authors.....	120
Glossary of Educational Terms .....	121
Some Educational Statistics.....	121
Annotated Bibliography.....	122
Interview Protocols.....	125

## REFERENCES

Tobias, S. & A. Baffert. 2009. "Science Teaching as a Profession: Why It Isn't How It Could Be." Research Corporation for Science Advancement. Currently FREE online as a 1.3 MB pdf at <<http://www.rescorp.org>>. The book's website is <<http://www.science-teaching-as-a-profession.com>>.