
Academy Involvement in Science Teaching Improvement Activities

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During the past several years various efforts have been made through the cooperation of the Oklahoma Academy of Science, Oklahoma Science Teachers Association, State Department of Education, and the Frontiers of Science Foundation to foster better communication between science teachers in grades 1-12 and college science teachers.

To provide a closer identification of science teachers with (1) the Oklahoma Academy of Science and (2) college science personnel, in colleges in the vicinity of the science teacher's classroom, to whom the science teacher can turn for assistance with classroom teaching problems, the Science Education Section of the Academy of Science coordinated a three-day program in connection with the 1968 Fall meeting of the Academy.

Thursday, 5 December, selected biology teachers and earth science teachers attended a Workshop that emphasized the use of inquiry in teaching their subjects. Attendance was limited to high school science teachers recommended by Academy of Science members in the state colleges and universities.

Friday, 6 December, the biology teachers and earth science teachers attended section meetings of the Academy to hear papers presented by research scientists representing the various science disciplines and to become acquainted with members of the Academy of Science.

Saturday, 7 December, the science teachers attended the Science Education Section Meeting to hear problems of science teaching discussed. Plans for additional science activities proposed for 1969 and subsequent years were also discussed with particular emphasis being given to the Spring Academy Meeting and its potential for providing additional opportunities for continued dialogue between college and high school science teachers.

Thirty science teachers representing high schools from across the state of Oklahoma attended. Manert Kennedy, Associate Director of the Biological Sciences Curriculum Study, and John Thompson, Associate Director of the Earth Sciences Curriculum Program, both from Boulder, Colorado, served as Workshop directors.

An evaluation of the science teachers' reactions to the Workshop and Academy of Science Meetings is currently being conducted by Jacob Blankenship and Roy Dick.