
NSSA News

National Technology and Social Science Conference

The National Technology and Social Science conference is the year's largest gathering of NSSA members. Held regularly in Las Vegas in April, the conference places an emphasis on technology but that does not diminish the number of presentations on other, varied topics. We are anticipating the largest conference in NSSA history with over 380 attendees and presenters. When you come to the conference you should be aware of some things that will help with your conference experience.

Sign In

The first things you need to do when getting to the conference is to sign in and receive your conference packet. This packet contains a name tag that provides entrance to the sessions, conference schedule and coupons necessary for the cocktail party and luncheon. The sign-in and lounge area where morning continental breakfasts and coffee is available is located in the convention area. The sign-in room opens in the afternoon prior to the board meeting and is the first area to open and last to close each day.

Presentations

The NSSA is made up of members of all social sciences and the conference presentations are as varied as the divisions within the discipline it represents. Because of this, while every effort is made to keep a common theme in a session, some



sessions are made up of diverse topics. People who come to the conference enjoy the diversity of presentations and the opportunity to hear research in areas of the social sciences different from, but related to their own. This interaction among disciplines is one of the strengths of the organization and the conference.

Session lengths vary and the number of minutes provided to each presenter during a session varies based on the time length requested on the application to present. It is important that each presenter stay within their time period including allowing time for questions when appropriate. Most sessions will have someone to moderate the time allowed. If a moderator is not present session presenters are expected to share time equally.

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From the President



*Steve Candee
Lane Community College
Eugene Oregon.*

As my term of office as president of the National Social Science Association comes to an end, I am reminded of why I joined this association over twenty years ago. Beyond the wonderful conference sites and superb publications that the association has produced over the years, it is ultimately the fabulous people that have kept this organization going and sustained my involvement. From executive director, Jerry Baydo, his lovely and hard-working wife Dianne, the presidents who have served before me (Rex, Bernie, Ron, Gayle, Michael), the governing board members, and all the conference participants have all given me memories that I will never forget. It has not always been an easy task to keep this association going, what with declining budgets, increased costs and reduced institutional support, but it has always been well worth the effort to do so. I am truly grateful for your attendance, your contributions and your support.

Steve Candee

Outstanding Board Member

Dr. Williams is a member of the Elementary Education Department. Nina teaches Literacy, Diversity and various Education courses and also supervises preservice teachers in their Clinical Field Experience. She has been the coordinator for the Philadelphia Urban Seminar for the past three years and works with the Alternative Education Department in coordinating activities for the LHU Philadelphia Partnership Elementary Schools. In addition, Professor Williams has supervised preservice and student teachers in Centre, Clinton and Lycoming, and Bucks Counties, taught graduate courses and served as the Student Pennsylvania State Education Association faculty advisor during her 15 years at Lock Haven University. As a member of the Board of Directors for the National Social Science Association since 2005, she has been active in recruiting members and mentoring undergraduate students in conference presentations and publications for the association. Nina also serves as the photographer and a member of the Technology committee. Several other professional memberships include the Keystone State Reading Association, Mid State Reading Council, Pennsylvania State Education Association and the National Education Association.



*Professor Nina Williams
Lock Haven Univ. of PA
Lock Haven, PA*

She was a public elementary school teacher for 16 years and the combination of public and higher education teaching and research has provided insight and opportunities to present as a consultant at school districts, as well as local, state, national and international conferences. Recent topics have included Cultural Code Switching, Urban Education, Partnerships in Education and Using Technology to Enhance Student Learning and Teaching,

Setting Sail on Tenure Track

*Barbara R. Peterson, Ed.D.
Austin Peay State University
Clarksville, TN*

The annual NSSA Fall Professional Development Conference took place from October 5th through October 8th, 2007 aboard a Carnival Cruise Ship from San Diego to Cabo San Lucas Mexico. Never in my wildest dreams as a doctoral student, did I imagine my first presentation as an Assistant Professor to be aboard a cruise ship. I attended conferences before, but they now paled in comparison to the romantic notion of a conference cruise along the Baha Peninsula.

This unique conference attracted an eclectic group of scholars from around the country. Topics ranged from National and International Politics, Economics and Social Justice, Education, Literature and Teaching, and Social Sciences in Action. It was an impressive array of topics with an equally impressive group of scholars. Unlike other conferences I have attended, I was able to step outside of my

professional arena and enter other professional worlds. This diversity energized my own professional focus by enriching my knowledge of scholarship outside of education. My colleagues and I agreed it was refreshing to attend presentations that didn't reiterate concepts we had been exposed to many times before.

Would I recommend this conference? My answer is "yes", without hesitation. The conference was well organized and accommodations were easily arranged. I had several questions about submitting the proposal and subsequently making arrangements to attend the conference. Jerry Baydo and the NSSA staff were quick to respond and provided excellent service.

I attended this conference with two colleagues. In April six colleagues and I will be attending the National Technology and Social Science conference in Las Vegas. Dr. Baydo and his staff again responded quickly and patiently answered our various questions.

The National Social Science Association has a family like feel, and makes you feel welcome in their home. I am looking forward to the conference in Las Vegas, but did you know about the Alaska Cruise in August?

25th Anniversary Meeting 2009

The National Social Science Association will celebrate its 25th anniversary meeting in the spring of 2009. This will be a very special meeting for the association and we hope to have members participate who have participated over the years. The association plans for special events during this meeting and there will be a student paper competition with substantially increased financial prizes. Board member will be recognized for their service over the years along with officers.

This meeting will again be the National Technology and Social Science Conference meeting and proposals will again be solicited from all the social sciences in the areas of teaching and research. Plus proposals will also be solicited dealing with general technology subjects. The proposal form will be available for this meeting in the fall of 2008. Dates for the meeting will be available soon on the NSSA website at <http://www.nssa.us>. We hope that you are able to participate in this 25th anniversary meeting.

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During a session it is common for people to move from one room to another in order to catch specific presentations. If moving, please do so quietly and, if possible, during changes of presenters. Audience size varies widely from 50 people down for any presentation. Sessions are checked on by conference representatives to make sure things are running smoothly. If any problems occur during a session contact conference representatives in the sign-in room.

Equipment

Computer and overhead projectors can be provided but must be requested. Remember that equipment fails at the worst times so having a backup is always a good idea. Presentations should be brought on jump drives or CDs. During the break before your session you should go to your presentation room to have your presentation loaded on the presentation computer. By doing this time for set up between presenters is kept to a minimum. Please allow the technician in the room to do this for you. If a technician is not there they are working in another room and will be with you shortly. Please do not load or change presentation equipment yourselves. If you have questions contact conference representative in the sign-in room.

Internet connectivity can not be guaranteed. Do to the high cost of connectivity in the conference area there is one room with dial-up access available. If you must have connectivity make sure you have indicated this on your presentation form. Remember, this is dial-up speed so presentations requiring heavy internet use are not recommended.

One particular problem anticipated this year is the introduction of the Office 2007 suite. These presentations may not be compatible with the PowerPoint on the presentation computer. If using the 2007 Office suite please bring both

2007 and earlier version of the file. This can be done in PowerPoint's Save dialog by choosing to save as an Office 2003 or Office 2000 file.

Please remember that *equipment will only be made available if requested in advance.*

Social Opportunities

Many people attending the conference look forward to seeing friends they have not seen since the last conference. The cocktail party, morning coffees, luncheon, breaks and Las Vegas night life all provide opportunities to make and renew friendships.

Awards Luncheon

In addition to being a social activity, the luncheon provides the venue for the NSSA awards and recognition ceremony. Awards are given for student papers, the new president is announced and the NSSA Outstanding Member of the Year is recognized.

We will do what we can to make your experience at the NSSA National Technology and Social Science conference a pleasant and productive one. Remember that any questions can be answered in the sign-in area and to never draw to an inside straight!

CURRENT NSSA OFFICERS

President..... Doug Nilson
 Executive Director..... Jerry Baydo
 President Elect..... Nena Torrez
 Secretary Gary Doby
 Tech. Consultant..... Don Luck

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Jerry Baydo..... Bernie Arenz
 Ron Tarullo..... Steve Candee

Alaska Cruise Seminar - August 2-9, 2008

Close to Being Sold Out!

The association has taken a survey of participants who have been participating in our summer seminars over the last few years; this survey was to ascertain the sites for future summer seminars. Many Canadian cities were prominent on this survey along with cities including Honolulu, Seattle, San Diego, San Francisco plus cruises to a variety of locations received much support on this survey. The cruise location that received the most votes was Alaska, so the association was able to negotiate a discounted package with Princess Cruise lines for an inner passage Alaska cruise out of Seattle, August 2-9, 2008.

Annie of Rainbow Travel has done an excellent job of handling cruise meetings and seminars for the association and she is again our travel coordinator for the Alaska cruise; her phone numbers are 800-359-7629 and 619-464-5345. The response to the Alaska cruise seminar is the highest for any of the summer seminar cruises and our discounted cabin block is virtually sold out for this unique summer seminar.

The theme of this summer seminar is Educational Challenges in the 21st Century and proposals are being accepted in all the social sciences. All individuals who have reserved a cabin will be contacted concerning their participation on the program.

Highlights of the cruise are the following. The cruise will leave Seattle at 4:00 p.m. and the



group will meet in a lounge on the top of the ship for a complimentary cocktail party where they pick up their seminar packets. On day two of the cruise while the ship is sailing north seminar sessions will take place. Day three will feature the port of Juneau and day four will feature the port of Skagway where the cruise company offers a series of excursions. The morning of day five is highlighted by a visit to the Tracy Arms Fjord area; the rest of the day will feature more seminar sessions. Day six will feature a visit to Ketchikan with more land tours available. Seminar sessions will conclude on day seven of the cruise and that evening will feature a brief stop at Victoria, British Columbia. On August 9th the ship will arrive back in Seattle.

If you are interested in this summer seminar cruise, you need to contact Annie as soon as possible at the numbers above. Hope you can join us for this Alaska cruise seminar.

NSSA Website Tour

Last spring the association launched its new website at <http://www.nssa.us> This website tour will familiarize you with the website and even allow you to participate in the announcements area of the website.

The opening page of the website gives an overview of the association and its various activities and publications. The association hosts a national spring meeting, a summer seminar, and a fall conference. The association attempts to hold these meetings in attractive locations and even on cruise ships. All papers from the various meetings and seminars can be submitted to the National Social Science Perspectives Journal which is the proceedings journal from the meetings. All papers can also be submitted to the National Social Science Journal which is the strictly refereed journal of the association. The association is renewing its listings in all major abstract and index publications for the national journal.

On the left column of the home page you will find About NSSA which gives an overview and history of the association and its goals. The Membership Form is a form that can be sent to the association office in California for membership in the association. Conferences and Seminars takes you to an overview of the two conferences and the summer seminar. There are also links from that page to the individual conferences and seminars. There are proposal forms for all meetings along with a program summary and registration form for the Las Vegas meeting. Publications takes you to the publications page where you find a master index to all articles published in the National Social Science Journal, plus an index for the last two years of this journal publication. Here is the electronic journal for last year and this year. Plus

you will find the table of contents for the National Social Science Perspectives Journals. More and more faculty from across the country and outside the country are reading the national journal articles in electronic format.

On the left column of the home page you will also find a message from Steve Candee who is our outgoing president, a list of board members and officers and executive council members. Plus there is a recognition of the work of Nina Williams who was chosen as an outstanding board member for her work for the association. Our spring newsletter will be found from the Newsletter area of the home page. Finally our Announcements area is our blog area of the association website and we welcome all information from our members for this area. The Contact Us includes a form that can be filled in and sent directly to our association office.

We are continually updating and revising our website; we hope that you spend some time taking your own tour of this website to keep up on the activities and publications of the association and again your blogs are welcomed.

National Social Science Association

The National Social Science Association (NSSA) is a national interdisciplinary association devoted to interaction among social scientists through our conferences, seminars, and publications. This association was founded in 1983 with a series of regional conferences and has now become one of the largest interdisciplinary educational associations in the United States.

Each spring the National Technology and Social Science Conference is held in Las Vegas, while the Summer Seminar and Fall Conferences are held in various cities as well as on cruise ships. Students are encouraged to participate in the national conference and participate in a student paper competition. All presentations from the conferences and seminars are published in *perspectives journals*, while all presentations can be submitted to the refereed *National Social Science Journal*.

CONTACT INFORMATION
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NSSA Website at <http://www.nssa.us>

Albuquerque Fall Professional Development Conference October 19-21, 2008

Old Town Albuquerque, New Mexico is once again the site of the NSSA fall conference. The association held a fall meeting there ten years ago and this was a very successful and well attended conference. We expect another good crowd for this upcoming fall conference. The host hotel is the Hotel Albuquerque which was the Sheraton Albuquerque when we met there last. The location of the hotel is an excellent one there in old town with all the shops and restaurants and historic sites.

The association was able to get discounted rates of \$139 single or double for the meeting. The conference will start on Sunday night with a complimentary cocktail party and sessions will take place on Monday and Tuesday. All publications can be submitted to the National Social Science Perspectives Journal and also can be submitted to the National Social Science Journal. All participants receive a certificate for professional development hours.



The site of Albuquerque is an attractive one because it is not far from Santa Fe and Taos to the north; plus there are a variety of locations to visit in the general Albuquerque area. Southwest Airlines serves the area and the airfare rates are quite reasonable, especially if booked well ahead of the meeting.

We look forward to your participation at our fall conference in New Mexico. There is a proposal form found on our website and proposal forms were mailed to all members of the association.