

Journal of the Minnesota Academy of Science

Volume 60 | Number 3

Article 1

1996

Front Matter

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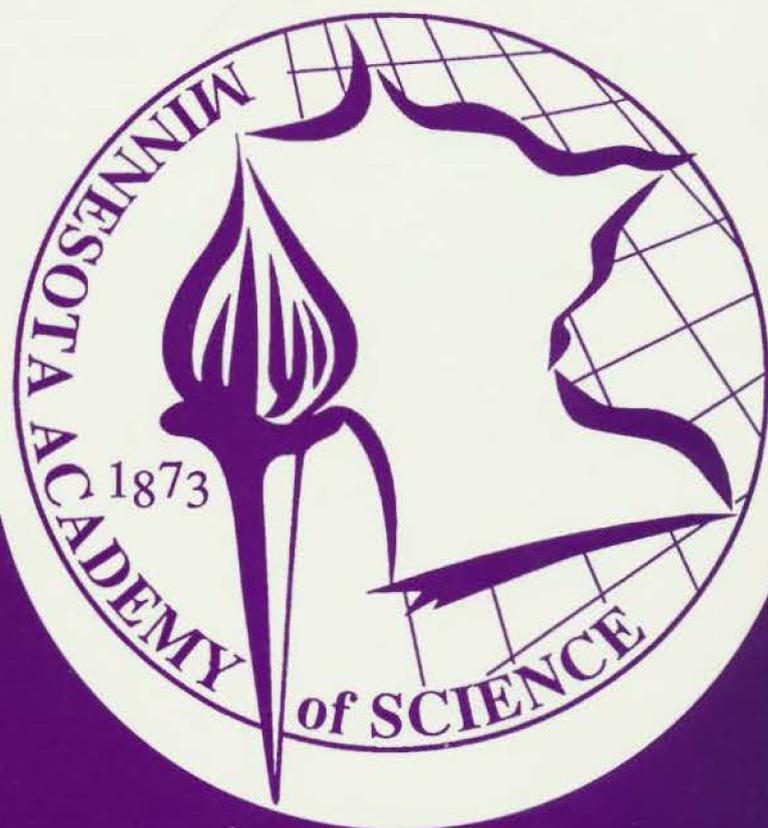
(1996). Front Matter. *Journal of the Minnesota Academy of Science, Vol. 60 No.3*, i-iii.
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**Journal of
the**

Minnesota

Academy of Science



SPRING 1996

VOLUME 60, No. 3

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Published by the Minnesota Academy of Science, Suite 410, 408 St. Peter St., St. Paul, MN 55102. Annual membership in the Academy, including receipt of this journal, is \$30 regular; \$20 post-secondary.

The Minnesota Academy of Science is affiliated with the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

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Journal of the **MINNESOTA ACADEMY OF SCIENCE**

Vol. 60, No. 3

Spring 1996

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MISSION STATEMENT

Minnesota Academy of Science is the local affiliate of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). It promotes communication and interaction among people interested in science through annual meetings and the Journal of the Minnesota Academy of Science. Another major emphasis is to promote and encourage science among the youth of Minnesota through communication and interaction with the scientific community. Youth activities include science fairs, science clubs and research paper competitions on both the high school and college level.

PROGRAMS

The Minnesota Academy of Science State Fair

Of the over 10,000 science projects and papers generated each year by Minnesota students, the top 300 are invited to display and/or present their projects at the three-day Minnesota State Science Fair. Twenty-four projects are selected to compete at the International Science and Engineering Fair where Minnesota outperforms much larger states, including California and New York.

Duluth

April 11-12, 1997

Annual Meeting

The annual meeting includes an interdisciplinary symposium as well as technical paper and poster sections. Concurrently with the technical papers are the Winchell Research Papers (see above). Future annual meetings:

University of Minnesota,

St. Paul

April 18-19, 1997

Winona

May 1-2, 1998

Macalester

April 23-24, 1999

Joint Meeting with NDAC

2000

Winchell Undergraduate/Graduate Research Competition

At the Annual Meeting of the Academy, college students are invited to present their research to the academic and corporate community. The abstracts of the student participants are published in the spring issue of the journal.

Journal

Published several times a year, this magazine is of interest to all Minnesotans. The journal provides an arena for publication of articles of regional impact. The journal is distributed throughout the University State Library system, as well as national and international exchange libraries, including the British Museum.

TO THE READER

May, 1996

Dear Reader:

With the current trend towards balancing budgets, I expect that competition between various entitlement programs and discretionary funding (research for example) will affect support for science and research at all levels. Much of the funding for research comes through the state and federal legislatures as well as private industry. The decrease in total federal employment is expected to continue and not just in the Department of Defense.

Most research efforts involve some aspect of training students for future research. This habit has enabled us to extend both educational and research monies; and, it has been an effective collaboration which I expect will continue into the future. However, the magnitude of the cuts in research funding (in excess of 10 % in many federal areas) will impact both education and research programs. In many instances, funding at the federal level is augmented at the state level to improve the efficiency of the appropriations and vice versa. Without support from one source, funding from another source becomes much less efficient and, in some cases, secondary funding is withheld entirely.

Thus, this being an election year, it is important to listen attentively to the debate and weigh the options very carefully. It's quite all right to write to your legislative representatives or candidates for office and describe your views on the subject as well. With perhaps diminished external national concerns, the internal debates may become very contentious as we decide where we want to head in the future.

Shifting subjects, we are experiencing a very clear increase in activity within the Academy. With nearly 90 Winchell competitors and 40 volunteered professional papers in addition to the symposia at the Annual Meeting at Hamline University in April, we have had some of the most intense participation in our brief history. Much of the organizational effort is done by volunteers convinced of the need to advance science and its teaching and that the meetings and high school science fairs are very important in this endeavor. Working with these fine people for over 5 years now has been a privilege easily recommended to those of you thinking about "becoming involved".

Don't forget to write a journal article. Our journal is sent to over 100 international libraries as well as the distribution within the US.

Sincerely,



Alan Olness, Editor, Minnesota Academy of Science Journal
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