

Message from the President

This year completes a two year term as president and I will turn over the office of the Academy to a new president and executive committee in both a sound financial condition and with exciting programs and excited program directors. The Academy completed all of its programs this year within the budget and had some of the best programs in recent memory.



My heart-warm thanks go out to those who made this a great year. To Barb Billington for the Science Bowl, to Mike Huberty and Bob Schumacher for Science Olympiad, to Wayne Wolsey for a renewed annual meeting and Journal edition, to Karen Newell for Scholars of Distinction and most assuredly to Gary Alexander for the Science Fair, REAP and JSHS. None of these individuals could have succeeded were it not for the phenomenal assistance they received from Pat Strandberg, Joe Duca and Max Hubbard holding the organization together and making sure all the bills are paid and everyone was registered correctly. Without all of these individuals there could be no functioning Academy, but with them, the Academy and its programs has been a major success this year. Next year promises to be even more exciting.

This report will detail the extent of impact the Academy has had on science education at all levels, from junior high school through professional science/research programs. We have many corporate sponsors to thank as well, for their continued, renewed and in some cases new support for science education in the state of Minnesota. The list of those sponsors is included in this annual report and with summaries of the programs each supports. Among other things, this year saw the first student from Minnesota competing in the international science fair held in London, England in July of 2006. Our own Gary Alexander was chosen to accompany the students as a mentor and representative of the Minnesota Academy of Science.

It has been a fun filled two years at the helm of the Academy. I look forward to another year as past-president and member of the Board of Directors and the Executive Board. I will remember these past two years as among the best in my career. Working with the gifted people above and many not mentioned has made it an easy task. Watching the development of students in pursuit of science makes all of the work worthwhile.

Here's to many more years of Academy activities,

Bill Heidcamp
President