

Celebrating 60 Years of Support to Science Educators



By David Beacom
Publisher, NSTA

As I reflect on NSTA's six decades of service to you, the members, I can't help but notice that the evolution of our journals really embodies the essence of the NSTA story.

When NSTA began in 1944, *The Science Teacher* was our primary means of communicating with members. As NSTA grew, we began publishing the *Elementary School Science Bulletin* (1952). Eleven years later, as "the status of science in the elementary school changed from an almost incidental area of the curriculum to one of great importance" (Glenn O. Blough, *Science and Children*, September 1963, p. 5), the bulletin expanded to become the journal called *Science and Children*.



In 1971, we launched the *Journal of College Science Teaching (JCST)* because "it became clear that to serve the college science teaching community...a journal of special design was needed...that would be interdisciplinary, that would take as its major responsibility science education in the first two years of college, and that would be primarily concerned with science for non-science majors" (Robert Carleton, NSTA Executive Secretary, *JCST*, October 1971, p. 6).

The needs of the middle level science teacher were addressed in both *Science and Children* and *The Science Teacher*. But as time went by, we realized that these teachers needed and deserved a publication of their own. NSTA launched *The Middle/Jr. High Science Bulletin* in 1978 as a supplement to the other journals. By 1983, *Science Scope* had shed its "newsprint-tabloid-bulletin image" and grown up to become *the* journal for middle level science teachers.

These four award-winning journals continually strive to meet your needs. And because NSTA truly is an organization *of* and *for* science educators, we rely on you to let us know how we are doing.

If you have ideas for new columns or departments that would enrich the journals and expand their usefulness to you, please send them to publisher@nsta.org. We look forward to hearing from you—and to advancing the interests of good science teaching for many years to come.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Beacom'. The signature is fluid and cursive, extending across the width of the page.

David Beacom,
Publisher, NSTA