

Mid-Atlantic ASTE Meeting News

Contributed by Rommel Miranda, Regional Director
Photos contributed by Ron Hermann

On October 23-24, 2015, the annual meeting of the Mid-Atlantic Association of Science Teacher Education was hosted by Ohio State University and University of Cincinnati. Conference coordinators Karen Irving (Ohio State University), Christopher Atchison (University of Cincinnati), and Donna Farland-Smith (Ohio State University) arranged a wonderful event on the picturesque grounds of the Salt Fork State Park Conference Center and Lodge in Lore City, Ohio.



Conference Committee (l to r): Christopher Atchison (Co-Chair), Erica Brownstein, Kathy Malone, Mandy Smith, Donna Farland-Smith (Co-Chair), Lin Ding, Elisebeth Boyer, Karen Irving (Co-Chair), (Missing in Photo: Kate Mollohan).

The 69 attendees, which included 17 graduate students and 2 undergraduate students, had opportunities to participate in 32 paper sessions, and 17 poster sessions. The conference ended with a “Business Meeting” in which our newly elected secretary Paula Magee (Indiana University-Purdue University-Indianapolis) took notes, while our Treasurer Rachel Wilson (Appalachian State University) provided the financial report. Regional Director, Rommel Miranda (Towson University), applauded Aimee Govett (East Tennessee State University), Kerry Cresawn (James Madison University), and Matthew Coppola (Indiana University-Purdue University-Ft. Wayne) for agreeing to coordinate the 2016 Mid-Atlantic Conference near Gatlinburg, Tennessee.

We also awarded our third Graduate Student Presentation Award, which was a peer-reviewed, merit-based honor intended to recognize outstanding contributions to research, as well as delivery of these contributions. The winner, Vinta Tiarani (Ohio State University), presented *Do Eighth Grade Students in an iSTEM Cohort Perceive Science, Math, and the Field of Engineering Differently than Traditional Eighth Grade Students?* As a recipient of this award, she received a certificate and \$750 to travel and present her research at the 2016 International ASTE conference in Reno, Nevada. Notification and requirements to apply for the 2016 MA-ASTE Graduate Student Presentation Award will be submitted via the listserv (April 2016).



Graduate Student Award recipient Vinta Tiarani at the Salt Fork State Park Conference Center and Lodge.

We would like to thank Rommel Miranda (Regional Director), Paula Magee (Secretary) and Rachel Wilson (Treasurer) for their outstanding dedication, commitment to excellence, and service to MA-ASTE. We are also especially grateful and thankful for Jennifer Maeng’s service to MA-ASTE as secretary over the past 3-years.