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<http://stemd.org>

Foundation for Science and Disability Newsletter

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?wall&gid=360413492800>

President's Corner



It has been a pleasure working with you all in my final year as President.

This year, the newsletter comes at the beginning of a year instead at the end. It gives us a chance to encourage everyone to attend the Annual AAAS meeting, this year in Washington DC, February 17-21. The annual meeting of

the Foundation for Science and Disability will be 11:30-1:00 in Salon F at the Washington Convention Center, Friday, February 18.

In this Newsletter, we are pleased to feature the Awardee of the 2010 FSD Student Grant, Shaun Kane. (see below)

Finally, I wanted to

mention a recent article by Virginia Gewin in the January 13 issue of Nature, "**The Fight for Access.**" It gives a good overview of current efforts in Europe and the US to encourage persons with disabilities to enter STEM careers. If you would like a copy and don't have easy access to Nature, drop me a note and I will email you a pdf.

February 2011

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Richard Manlin
1/30/11

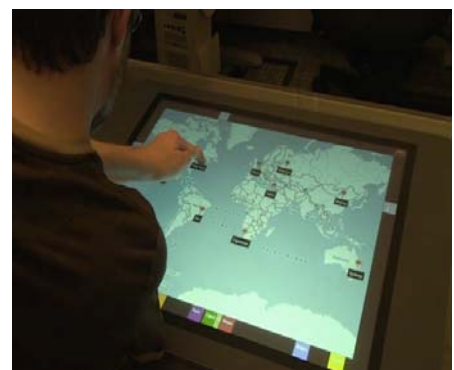
Notes from Student Awardees

Shaun Kane

Accessible touch-screen-based user interfaces for mobile devices

With the help of the research grant from the Foundation for Science and Disability, I conducted 2 research studies in Summer 2010 that focused on improving the usability of touch screen-based computers for blind and visually impaired people. The first project, an empirical study that examined how blind users interact with a touch screen, was accepted into the 2011 ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing

Systems (CHI '11) and was nominated for a Best Paper Award at that conference. The second project, called OneView, is a new technology that enables blind or visually impaired students to collaborate with their sighted peers using tablet PCs. This project was a Worldwide Finalist in the 2010 Imagine Cup competition in Warsaw, Poland, and was publicized in the Seattle Times and on KOMO Radio in Seattle,



Washington. In Fall 2010 I participated in a research internship at Microsoft Research in Redmond, Washington, where I explored methods to improve the accessibility of large touch screens. I intend to complete my Ph.D. in June 2011, and hope to begin my career as a professor in Fall 2011.

Emma Sacks

Low birth weight and prematurity contribute to approximately one third of newborn deaths and to an unknown amount of subsequent disability. I am interested in finding ways to reduce the mortality and morbidity of newborns in developing countries by improving the identification of ill newborns and enhancing the care they receive at birth. I am in my fourth year of doctoral study at Johns Hopkins and have completed my

Qualitative research on home-based care of premature (low birth weight) infants in sub-Saharan Africa

qualifying exams and am officially ABD! I am working on a number of research projects on maternal and newborn health in Africa and I am planning to travel back to Tanzania sometime in the next few months to collect more dissertation data.



I have attached a photo from the Global Health Council in Washington DC, where I presented some recent research in June.

Student Grant Awardees since 1990

1990	Wendy Pava, Birgit Wolz, Elaine Hall	2000	Jennifer Last
1991	Kevin Wilkins, Shan Ming Lee	2001	Cassandra Quave
1992	Meghal Antani, Lynn Hanninen, Mara Frohlinger	2002	My Lien Nguyen
1993	David Fass, William Hylton	2003	Mark Woods
1995	Chris Tromborg	2004	Jessica Mahood
1996	Anne-Michelle Singleton	2005	Cheryl Fogle
1997	Leslie Harper	2007	Melodi King
1998	Maura O'Modhrain	2008	Ryan McKindles
1999	Joseph Barbera, Byunggyoo Kim	2009	Emma Sacks
		2010	Shaun Kane

In Memory of Edward C. Keller, Jr

We are sorry to hear of the passing of long-time FSD officer and member, Ed Keller. Below is an obituary reprinted from the McCulla Funeral Home announcement, Morgantown West Virginia:



Edward C. Keller, Jr., Ph.D., Sc.D., FAAAS, age 77, passed away on Thursday, March 18, 2010 at Ruby Memorial Hospital in Morgantown. His family had gathered close to his bedside since a major stroke on February 16th of this year.

Dr. Keller was born in Freehold, NJ on October 8th, 1932 the son of Edward C. Keller and Pauline D. (VanSickle) Keller. Ed was raised in Bloomsburg, PA, where he graduated from Bloomsburg High School in 1950. Shortly after graduation he married his high school sweetheart, Helen Baylor. At the age of seventeen he contracted poliovirus, which led to lifelong disability in his legs. He received a grant to attend the famous rehabilitation facility in Warm Springs, GA in the summer of 1951. Ed worked hard to regain as much use of his legs as possible and soon received a scholarship to attend Pennsylvania State University in State College, PA. There he received a B.S. in Agronomy, Botany, & Economics in 1952 and his M.S. degree in Genetics/Breeding & Zoology. He then received a Ph.D. in Statistical Genetics & Statistics in 1961. He performed his postdoctoral studies at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill from 1961 to 1964 in Biochemical Genetics & Statistics.

Ed worked for Penn State from 1955 to 1961 as an instructor and researcher, while attending school, and was a NIH Fellow at both Penn

St. and at UNC. From 1964 to 1968 he was an Assistant Professor of Zoology at the University of Maryland, and also was on part-time staff at George Washington University as an advisor in undergraduate education. In 1966 to 1968 Ed was Manager of Data Systems and Operations for the NUS Corporation in Los Angeles, where he worked for the space program. He came to Morgantown in 1968 as the Chairman of the WVU Biology Department. After five years as an administrator, he became a full time teacher / researcher who taught thousands of students and graduate students over a 40-year period, and served on many graduate committees. During that time he published over 110 research articles, abstracts, and reports, and was awarded 52 governmental grants. Also, he participated in high school science education in the state, and served as the past President of the West Virginia Academy of Sciences. His areas of research expertise included: Taconite pollution in Lake Superior; the ocean dumping problem of Philadelphia; EPA air and water pollution monitoring criteria; impacts of stress on bio-regeneration systems in the Apollo project; oil pollution projects for the EPA and industry; waste water guidelines; nuclear, synfuel, and coal plant impact statements; the impact of acid mine drainage and acid mine drainage remediation; and the environmental influences in human cancer and cardiovascular mortalities and their spatial distributions in West Virginia.

Dr. Keller received many awards in his life that he held dear. Among those he was most proud of were: an honorary D.Sc. from Salem College (1978); WVU Social Justice Award (1991); Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics, and Engineering (1997), Distinguished Service Award from the National Science Teachers Association (1997); and his 2002 induction into the Hall of Fame for Persons With Disabilities for his lifetime achievements.

Ed was known as a champion for the disabled. He obtained N.S.F. funding and taught for several years at a unique summer program designed to expose high school juniors to the marine sciences in a laboratory setting (Wallops Island, VA), and to other students with differing disabilities than their own. This program was so successful that an award winning film was made about it. He spent his later years as a National Science Foundation expert on disabled persons in Science and Engineering, and was the coordinator of WV Dept. Education for Equity & Access Education. Ed is survived by his son Edward C. Keller III and wife Diana, and his daughter Kim and husband S. Craig Stamm, Ph.D., and his two grandchildren Lauren V. Stamm and Nicholas Edward W. Stamm, and Lauren's fiancée, John Michael Barone, all of Morgantown. Ed was preceded in death by his parents and his ex-wife of more than 30 years, Helen Keller Henry.

The next annual meeting of FSD is February 17-21, 2011 at the AAAS conference in Washington, DC

Minutes of the FOUNDATION FOR SCIENCE AND DISABILITY Annual Meeting
9:00 AM, Friday, February 19, 2010, Carlsbad Room, San Diego Marriott and Marina
333 West Harbor Drive San Diego, CA, 92101

Angela Foreman (AngelaLeeForeman@yahoo.com)

Richard Mankin (rmankin@nersp.nerdc.ufl.edu)

Erica Penn (ericalyne@aol.com)

Josh Penn

Laureen Summers

Richard Weibl

Each attendee gave brief descriptions of their current professional activities.

Minutes

The minutes from the last meeting (February 13, 2009 - Chicago, IL) were reviewed and approved as posted at <http://www.ars.usda.gov/sp2UserFiles/person/3559/annmeetminute09.html>.

Treasurer's Report

Robert Van Etten (not present) submitted a report (see below). The report was discussed and approved.

Science Student Grant Committee Report - Richard Mankin

Shaun Kane, a graduate student in information sciences at the University of Washington was awarded a \$1000 student grant for work on the project, "Accessible touch screen-based user interfaces for mobile devices."

Officer Elections

Election Results –

Treasurer, 3-year term beginning February 19, 2010, Angela Foreman

President, 3-year term beginning February 18, 2011, Erica Penn

New Business

Laureen Summers asked if the Foundation was considering any new initiatives for 2010. Possible initiatives were discussed, including setting up of a Facebook page to establish more linkages among members and other scientific organizations. Erica Penn volunteered to set up a Facebook page to see if it would be a useful networking tool for younger members. Richard will provide Erica with copies of information on the Foundation website that can be included on the Facebook page. Erica and Laureen also plan to contribute to the 2010 Newsletter, which is expected to be posted next October.

There was some discussion of ways to increase the numbers of researchers with disabilities who attend the AAAS meeting. This has been a longstanding concern, and the recent economic problems may lead to even lower attendance for the next few years. No clear solution to this problem was identified.

The meeting adjourned at 10:45 AM.

Submitted February 20, 2010

Richard Mankin

FSD Treasurer's Report

Update Report for the period of October 20th 2009 – February 16, 2010

	2009	2010
ASSETS:		
Cash on Hand	10688.57	9788.57
Total Assets	10688.57	9788.57
INCOME:		
Dues	100.00	415.00
Contributions	0	360.00
Total Income	100.00	775.00
EXPENSES:		
Newsletters	0	0
Student Award	1000.00	0
Bank Service Charge	0	0
Total Expenses	1000.00	0
NET INCOME:	(900.00)	775.00
NET BALANCE	9788.57	10563.57

Above is the treasurer report with a net balance of \$10563.57

Robert Van Etten Treasurer February
16, 2010

Foundation for Science
and Disability

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The Foundation for Science and Disability (<http://stemd.org>) was founded in 1978 to promote the integration of persons with disabilities into the mainstream of the scientific community. A major focus of FSD has been the removal of barriers that restrict opportunities to develop careers and conduct scientific research. The Foundation also provides grants to students with disabilities who are conducting research in the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering, or Mathematics.

President: Erica Penn (ericalyne@aol.com)

Treasurer: Angela Lee Foreman (angelaleeforeman@yahoo.com)

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Foundation for Science and Disability 2010 Dues Notice Membership Application / Renewal Form

Dues Schedule:

Student \$5.00

Regular \$25.00

Contribution _____

Total _____

Please make checks out to:

Foundation for Science and Disability

and mail to:

Angela Lee Foreman

14 Chelmsford Rd

Rochester, NY 14618

Please list a change of address, if any, and / or list any comments for the Board of Directors below. Also, please forward us your email address if you have not already done so.