



SEAN SCENE

A newsletter by and for members of the
Student Education Association of Nebraska

605 S. 14th Street • Lincoln, NE 68508 • (800) 742-0047 • www.nsea.org/sean • April 2015

2014-15 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President

Jacob Zeiss- Wayne State College
jazeis01@wsc.edu

Vice President

LA Adams- Peru State College
laadams1987@yahoo.com

Secretary

Amanda Volksen- Peru State College
a.volksen@gmail.com

Metro Region Rep

Brenna Wragge- Univ. of Neb.- Omaha
bwragge@unomaha.edu

Northeast Region Rep

Hailey DeRocher - Wayne State College
hadero01@wsc.edu

Southeast Region Rep

Rae Carbaugh-Peru State College
racarbaugh@campus.peru.edu

Western Region Rep

Brittany Snider- Univ. of Neb.- Kearney
sniderbc@lopers.unk.edu

Underclass Rep

Emily Wilmes- Wayne State College
emily.wilmes@yahoo.com

NSEA Advisors:

Mike Wiesen
mike.wiesen@nsea.org

Tamra Mick
tamra.mick@nsea.org

NSEA Board Liasons:

Linda Freye
lfreye62@gmail.com

Paul Schulte
meapresident@hotmail.com

SEAN Membership Advisors:

Karen Kilgarin
karen.kilgarin@nsea.org

Al Koontz
al.koontz@nsea.org

Kristi Capek
kristi.capek@nsea.org

INTERGENERATIONAL MENTORING PROGRAM

What They Said

GR8

lol

btw

ASAP

THX



Taylor Ruzicka
Doane College

We gained a lot of crucial knowledge that has probably changed my life, now and in the future, for the better. It's evident that we are cared about by the NSEA as upcoming teachers, and that's a feeling that can't be challenged.



Jeana Rezac
Midland University

I feel that the mentoring program will help me to be more confident in my work. I student teach this fall and I believe my mentor will give me great advice on what to do and how to handle certain situations.



Keri Andersen
Peru State College

My highlight was getting to know myself as a person at a deeper level and getting to know the people that I did. It was very amazing how we could spend only a day or less and develop relationships that we can carry for life.

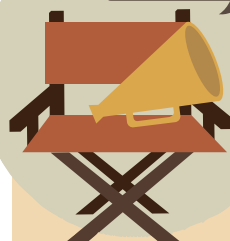


Kelsey Cordero
Creighton University

One of my favorite moments was when we did the closing circles and said what we had learned from this program. I was so overwhelmed by the amazing people in the room and the fact that the short program was over that I cried.

READ MORE about this event on page 7

ACTION!



MARK YOUR CALENDAR! SEAN DELEGATE ASSEMBLY

Saturday, April 11, 2015
NSEA Headquarters in Lincoln

NOTE CHANGES PROPOSED:

Members at the April 11 Delegate Assembly will consider changes to SEAN Bylaws that include a change in the office of vice president.

Additional details on pages 2-4

On Shoulders of Giants

Delegate Assembly to Include Hints for First Year Teachers, Details on Teaching Certification

Delegate Assembly is the annual meeting in which members typically deal with the business of the Association.

This year, the SEAN Delegate Assembly will also include two exciting professional development opportunities focused on hints for first year teachers, and teaching certificates.

Reigning Nebraska Teacher of the Year Shelby Aaberg, a mathematics teacher at Scottsbluff High School, will deliver the keynote address to delegates at the Saturday, April 11, Assembly.

Aaberg's topic: *Helpful Hints in Hindsight: What the First Year Teacher Needs to Know*. Aaberg said he will discuss meaningful use of technology in the classroom; strategies for maximizing colleagues as resources; effective pedagogical practices, and authentic ways to answer the vexing question "When will I ever use this?" He urged participants to be ready for a question and answer session!



NSEA's Jay Sears

Also on the agenda is a tutorial on the Nebraska teaching certificate – a teacher's professional license. Jay Sears, NSEA's director of instructional advocacy, will talk about *The Teaching Certificate: Your Most Valuable Piece of Paper*.

Sears spent 15 years teaching at Seward and for the past 31 years has been with NSEA. His duties include working with the State Board of Education, which governs the teacher certification

process, and which acts as the final authority when teachers face revocation of that certificate.

Aaberg was a student who almost never missed a day in the classroom. He was a frustrated third grader when his mother one day determined that he was too ill to go

to school. Yet he learned a life lesson that day when his teacher walked into the Aaberg home after school to deliver books for him to read in preparation for the next day.

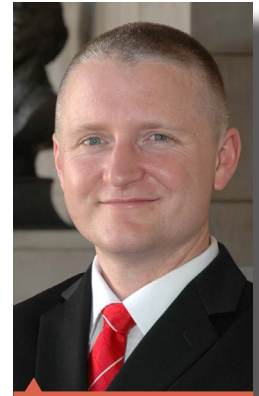
"That level of caring, that thoughtfulness, helped me realize the impact a teacher can have on a young person," said Aaberg.

State officials recognized Aaberg in October during a ceremony at his Scottsbluff High School mathematics classroom and also at the NSEA with a luncheon commendation from the Governor. In addition to updating the SEAN Bylaws, members in attendance will also elect officers for the 2015-16 Association year. Members who enjoy service work, who seek leadership opportunities and who are willing to offer time to the Association are urged to consider seeking office (see story on the next page).

The schedule also includes the announcement of the NSEA-Retired scholarships for SEAN students headed into their student teaching semester.

Also selected at Delegate Assembly will be five to eight members to attend the NSEA Delegate Assembly on Friday and Saturday, April 24-25, at Embassy Suites in Lincoln. The SEAN delegation will attend with up to 300 active teachers from across the state. That event is a great learning experience and networking opportunity for SEAN members.

There is no cost to attend. For details on the April 11 meeting, or to reserve your spot, contact Mike Wiesen (mike.wiesen@nsea.org) or Tamra Mick (tamra.mick@nsea.org) at 1-800-742-0047.



Shelby Aaberg
Nebraska's 2015
Teacher of the Year

2015 Student Education Association of Nebraska State Education Association

Learn to Lead: Become an Officer in SEAN

Officers Will Network, Build Skills as Leaders

Those elected to serve on the leadership team of the 1,500 member Student Education Association of Nebraska will earn more than a line on a resume.

In exchange for their work, the eight members of the Executive Committee build leadership skills as they plan and lead SEAN's various conferences and projects each year. They network with other students across the state, as well as with active teachers and leaders of SEAN's parent organization, NSEA. They meet potential employers, and in some cases travel to national conferences.

Thus, it makes sense to consider service as a SEAN officer in 2015-16. To seek office, potential candidates:

- Must have joined SEAN no later than Feb. 15, 2015.
- Must be preparing for a career in education.
- Must make their intentions known at the SEAN Delegate Assembly in Lincoln on Saturday, April 11. Officers will be elected on that day.

Declaration of candidacy for office constitutes acknowledgement that the candidate, if elected, will assist in planning, and will attend and participate in SEAN functions and activities during the 2015-16 school year. That will include a leadership conference at NSEA Headquarters on or about Friday, Aug. 14.

These are the vacancies, listed with some of the duties they are expected to perform:

- **President:** will preside at Executive Committee meetings; represent SEAN at regular meetings of the NSEA Board of Directors; be a state representative to NEA Student Program national meetings.
- **Vice President:** will keep in touch with local campus chapters; act as state membership chair; carry out other duties as assigned by the president. The candidate

for vice president must have at least four semesters of study remaining at the time of election (see sidebar).

- **Secretary:** will keep minutes of meetings; keep list of chapter officers and sponsors; work with the president to distribute information to local chapters.
- **Regional Representatives:** will represent the views and interests of their specific constituents; perform other duties as directed by the state president. These representatives, by region and institution, are:

o **Metro Region Representative**

- University of Nebraska Omaha
- Grace University
- College of St. Mary
- Creighton

o **Northeast Region Representative**

- Wayne State College
- Northeast Community College
- Midland University

o **Southeast Region Representative**

- Peru State College
- University of Nebraska-Lincoln
- Doane College
- Nebraska Wesleyan University

o **Western Region Representative**

- Chadron State College
- University of Nebraska Kearney
- Hastings College
- York College
- Central Community College (all campuses)

o **Underclass Representative**

- Elected at the end of his or her freshman or sophomore year from any higher ed institution in Nebraska, the student will serve in his or her sophomore or junior year in school.

Note: Changes to Vice-President Position Proposed

Members at the April 11 Delegate Assembly will consider changes to SEAN Bylaws that include a change in the office of vice president.

If approved, delegates will vote on April 11 for a president-elect for 2015-16, rather than a vice president. Duties will remain largely unchanged but the president-elect will automatically ascend to the office of president for the 2016-17 association year. Candidates for president-elect must have at least four semesters of study remaining at time of election.

Interested in serving? Talk to your campus advisor or to one of the SEAN Advisors or NSEA Board Advisors listed on the first page of this newsletter.

of Nebraska (SEAN) Delegate Assembly
Headquarters • Saturday, April 11, 2015

2015 SEAN Delegate Assembly

NSEA Headquarters • Saturday, April 11, 2015

Tentative Agenda:

9:30 a.m.

Registration

10 a.m.

First General Session
 Welcome & Announcements
Jacob Zeiss, Wayne State College, President
 Pledge of Allegiance
L.A. Adams, Peru State College, Vice President
 Welcome-Opening Remarks
Nancy Fulton, Wilber-Clatonia, NSEA President
 Parliamentary Procedure Tips

Call to Order
 Roll Call – Declaration of Quorum
 Adoption of Agenda
 Adoption of Rules of the Day
 Introduction of proposed amendments to
 Bylaws & Resolutions

10:30 a.m.

The Teaching Certificate: Your Most Valuable
 Piece of Paper
*Jay Sears, NSEA Director of Instructional
 Advocacy*

11:20 a.m.

2015-16 SEAN/NSEA – Retired Scholarship
 Recipients Announced
Tom Black, NSEA – Retired

11:30 a.m.

Keynote Speaker:
 2015 Nebraska Teacher of the Year
*Shelby Aaberg, Math Teacher,
 Gering High School*

12:30 p.m.

Lunch
 Candidate Campaigning

1:30 p.m.

Second General Session

Introduction, Debate & Voting on
 New Business Items
 Debate/Voting on proposed Resolutions
 Debate/Voting on proposed Bylaws amendments

Old Business
 Dues and Budget Report
 Election of 2015-16 Officers

Report of Election Committee – State Officers

Regional Caucuses and Election of Regional
 Representatives

Nominations, campaign speeches and election
 of NSEA DA delegates

Report of Election Committee – Region Reps
 and NSEA DA delegates

RA Candidate speeches

Report of:

Chapter Excellence Awards Committee
 Bylaws & Resolutions Committee
 Membership Committee
 Scholarship Committee
 Outreach to Teach Project
 State Report
 National Report
 President's Comments
 General Announcements
 Passing of the gavel
 Introduction of the new Executive Committee

Adjourn





ORLANDO REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY 2015

RA Delegate Election

ISO: OUTREACH TO TEACH COORDINATOR

Each fall for the past nine years, more than 100 members of SEAN gather at a public school to scrub, paint, rake, dust and otherwise spruce up a public school's building and grounds.

Next year, the target will be a school building in the greater Omaha area. All that is needed is a student member from the SEAN Metro Region to serve as coordinator for the event.

Once a school site is identified, the Outreach to Teach Coordinator will work with the NSEA staff liaison to SEAN to identify a list of projects to be completed at Outreach to Teach. The coordinator will also secure supplies, such as paint and cleaning items, needed for the project.

The coordinator serves as an ex-officio member of the SEAN Executive Committee and is the spokesperson for the project.

The SEAN Metro Region includes members at the University of Nebraska-Omaha, Grace University, College of St. Mary and Creighton University.

Past Outreach to Teach events have brightened school buildings in Omaha, Norfolk, Grand Island, Minden, Lewiston and Lincoln, among others.

To apply, contact NSEA SEAN Liaison Mike Wiesen (mike.wiesen@nsea.org) or Associate Staff member Tamra Mick (Tamra.mick@nsea.org) at 1-800-742-0047.

SEAN members – watch your email inbox the week of April 13. That's when you will receive an email that will allow you to vote for up to three colleagues seeking to represent you at the NEA Representative Assembly in Orlando.

The Representative Assembly is one of the world's largest decision-making bodies, with more than 9,000 educators attending each year to debate issues, update NEA Bylaws and set dues for the coming year. The five day event opens in a different U.S. city each year on July 1.

The elected trio will also attend the three-day NEA Student Program convention that is held in Orlando prior to Representative Assembly.

The emails will arrive with a link to the ballot, which will include a short biography on each candidate. SEAN members can vote for up to three candidates.

Watch for details about the 2016 Representative Assembly opportunities in the next SEAN Scene!



SEAN Rebate Available at nsea.org

As a first year teacher and a member of your local association in Nebraska, you'll want to remember that you may be eligible for a rebate on your SEAN dues.

NSEA offers a one-time, \$10 rebate for every year you were a member of SEAN. And the National Education Association offers an additional \$20 rebate for each year you were a member. So, if you were a member of SEAN all four years of college, the rebate of \$30 for each year would total \$120!

For a rebate form, contact your local association president, or download the form from the NSEA website at www.nsea.org/member_info/nsea-treasurers-packet

SPRING CONFERENCE: *Secret Agents, Twitter, Physics and more!*

Ferial Pearson is a keeper of secrets and founder of a covert operation that has spread from Omaha South High School to locations across the country.

An instructor at the University of Nebraska-Omaha, Pearson was one of the speakers at SEAN's annual Spring Conference in Nebraska City and at Peru State College in February, with more than 50 members in attendance.

Also on the agenda was a session on using Twitter to enhance your learning network, demonstrations in the magic of teaching physics, and a panel of educators and administrators.

Members also had some fun with a Lip Sync Contest during the Friday evening portion of the conference. At \$1 per vote for their favorite performances, students raised more than \$160 for the NSEA Children's Fund.

Keynoting the Friday night program in Nebraska City, University of Nebraska-Omaha instructor Pearson spoke about her years at Omaha South and the founding of a group she called *The Secret Agents of Kindness*, who are outlined in her book of the same title. Pearson tasked the members of her team with doing good deeds for others, with two conditions: the tasks were to be completed anonymously and at no cost.

Pearson said the tasks – ranging from picking up trash on school grounds to writing a thank-you note to a teacher – raised the sense of self-worth in participants, and also began to improve the attitude building-wide. Ferial's book, published in 2014, is available at amazon.com.

Edward Ventura Jr., an Omaha educator and chair of NSEA's Ethnic and Minority Affairs Committee, offered two sessions on *How to Use Twitter to Grow Your Personal Learning Network*. Ventura said Twitter allows participants to connect with teachers all over the world.

"I'm getting ideas and personal resources all the time," he said.

In particular, Ventura said he likes the 7 p.m. chat each Wednesday night at #NebEdChat.

SEAN offers professional development at a spring conference, a fall conference and at Delegate Assembly each year. Watch the SEAN Scene for details.



Rebecca Holcomb, Hastings College, meets author and national award-winning teacher Ferial Pearson.



UNL Students Haley Montgomery, Evann Urana and Kira Hess compete in the lip sync battle.



SEAN Officer Rae Carbaugh presents on the heirarchy of SEAN leadership.



NSEA EMAC Chair Edward Ventura, Jr. explains using Twitter as a powerful tool in education.



NEA Trainer Gene Grooms passes a ribbon used in a sharing ceremony to Peru State's Taylor Pfeifer.



Creighton students Kelsey Cordero and Amanda Alvarado share details about their teaching aspirations.



Retired NSEA member Dee Gillham talks about her teaching career.

INTERGENERATIONAL MENTORING

After a dozen seasons of NSEA's lauded InterGenerational Mentoring program, one might think the program sponsored by the NSEA-Retired affiliate would get good reviews.

Well, in fact, the reviews have been excellent.

A spot check with the education majors from across the state who participated in the March event at NSEA Headquarters found them universally pleased with the program.

Creighton's Kelsey Cordero found the program inspiring.

"I am inspired on a whole new level to take up where the retired teachers before me have left off," she said. "It is now my turn to take the reins in the classroom, and these amazing inspiring teachers trust me to do so."

The 12-year-old project pairs NSEA-Retired members with members of the Student Education Association of Nebraska – education majors – during the student's junior year in teacher education. The NSEA-Retired member acts as a mentor to the student member from their junior year through their senior student teaching semester and into their first year as a professional teacher, if desired.

The relationship between the mentor and the student is always non-judgmental and non-evaluative. The mentor helps the prospective teacher get through the tough day-to-day moments and challenging situations that every student teacher and every first-year teacher will face. Through telephone, e-mail, and face-to-face conversations, the student knows he or she has an experienced mentor to turn to for an idea for a lesson, a hint for handling a discipline problem, or a trusting shoulder to lean on.

Said Doane College's Taylor Ruzicka: "I trust that my mentor will be patient with me and immerse me in opportunities she has discussed with me to help me further my understanding about a concept that is very hard for me to grasp, but yet will help make me a better advocate for my students/children politically in the future."

Midland University's Jeana Rezac was pleased by the attention given to students by the retired teachers.

"They care so much about education and seeing all that goes on in education, they wanted to make sure that they leave education in good hands," said Rezac. "It was great to hear them get us interested in continuing the education excellence and to make a difference in the education world."

For more details on the program, contact Duane Obermier (duane.obermier@nsea.org) at NSEA at 1-800-742-0047.



Retired Norfolk teacher Jim Kubik visits with Creighton University's Katie Goddard.



NSEA Retired member John Niemoth and Midland University's Jeana Rezac talk about teaching.



Northeast Community College's Angelica Villalobos gets to know retired teacher Terri Marti.