

## **ANNUAL REPORT 2021/2022**

The 36<sup>th</sup> Management Committee of Science Teachers Association of Singapore (STAS) is pleased to present to you the 2021/2022 Annual Report of the Science Teachers Association of Singapore.

### **1. Honorary President**

Vacant

### **2. Honorary Advisor**

The Honorary Advisor to the Science Teachers Association of Singapore since 2019 to date is Dr Angela Wong Foong Lin (**Retired** Assoc Prof, Learning Sciences and Technology, National Institute of Education)

### **3. The STAS Executive Committee 2021 to 2023**

The Chairman of the 36<sup>th</sup> STAS Executive Committee presented the new STAS Executive Committee for 2021 to 2023:

1	Chairman	Mr Jay Mahardale
2	1 <sup>st</sup> Vice Chairman	Mr Abdul Mannan Mohd Ibrahim
3	2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Chairman	Ms Tan Irene
4	Honourary Gen Secretary	Ms Arlene Pang
5	1 <sup>st</sup> Asst Honourary Gen Secretary	Mr Justin Lee
6	2 <sup>nd</sup> Asst Honourary Gen Secretary	Mdm Lai Tsai Yi
7	Honourary Treasurer	Mr Tham Hanrong
8	Asst Honourary Treasurer	Mr Md Shahrin Moorthy
9	Member	Ms Pearly Ng Por Joo
10	Member	Ms Fabiola Lip Yoke Suet
11	Member	Ms Anne Wong Mei Leng
12	Member	Dr Charles Chew Ming Kheng
13	Member	Mr Yeo Kee Sheng
14	Member	Dr Muhammad Nazir
15	Honourary Auditor	Mrs Ong Me Lan
16	Asst Honourary Auditor	Mrs Anne Dhanaraj

#### 4. 2021-2022 STAS Programme

##### 4.1. 2021 OUTSTANDING SCIENCE TEACHER AWARD OSTA

The objectives of OSTA are to

- focus public attention on the positive aspects of Science education, thereby raising the public image of the teaching profession;
- recognise and promote excellence in teaching practice;
- honour dedicated, creative and effective teachers;
- encourage best and next practice of Science in schools; and
- accord Singapore students and teachers the opportunity to show appreciation for outstanding teachers publicly.

The OSTA nominees ought to be teachers who:

- ignite a love for Science in their students;
- use innovative methods to engage students in learning of Science; and
- are passionate about making Science interesting and relevant to students.

The shortlisted 2021 OSTA nominees for interview (held on 21 July 2021) were:

S/No	Name of Teacher	Name of School	Subject
1	Ms Lisa Boon Lishi	Naval Base Secondary School	Chemistry
2	Mrs Joyce Chong	Paya Lebar Methodist Girls' School (Sec)	Chemistry
3	Ms Huang Kexin	Fuhua Secondary School	Physics
4	Mr Seow Tzer Yeun	Edgefield Secondary School	LSS
5	Mdm Ong Xuan Wan	Dazhong Primary School	Primary Sci
6	Mdm Nurhida Bte Sapiie	Evergreen Primary School	Primary Sci

The recipients for the 2021 Outstanding Science Teacher Award were:

S/No	Name of recipients	School	Subject
1	Mrs Joyce Chong	Paya Lebar Methodist Girls' School (Sec)	Chemistry
2	Ms Huang Kexin	Fuhua Secondary School	Physics
3	Mdm Nurhida Bte Sapiie	Evergreen Primary School	Primary Sci

Each recipient received SGD2000 for their professional development, a certificate, and a trophy.

The winners were announced at the Singapore Youth Science Fair and Outstanding Science Teachers Award Ceremony 2021, which took place online on 27 Aug 2021 (2.30 – 4.30 pm). The ceremony was live streamed via <https://for.edu.sg/sysf2021>. The Guest of Honour for the Ceremony is DyDGE (PD), Mrs Chua Yen Ching.

Details of programme can be found in on page 4.

#### 4.2. 2021 SINGAPORE YOUTH SCIENCE FAIR SYSF

In 2020, 115 teams from over 60 primary and secondary schools signed up for the Singapore Youth Science Fair (SYSF), the worsening COVID-19 pandemic and the latest measures for schools to go on full Home-based Learning for one month, prompted the committee to postpone 2020's SYSF to comply with the then enhanced preventive measures.

In 2021, with a modified online format, 2021's SYSF saw a revived interest with a total of 116 teams (58 primary teams and 58 secondary teams) from over 70 primary and secondary schools registering to participate.

Due to the COVID-19 situation, we were not able to have a booth display during the award ceremony for everyone to view each other's projects. To allow the exchange of ideas for the SYSF, the organising committee compiled the project abstracts of the teams that were awarded Distinction for everyone's reference. It was hoped that this would still allow the exchange of project ideas among schools and provide ideas on what schools could investigate for the next SYSF.

Theme: Responsible Advocacy through Science

The objectives of SYSF were:

- to promote scientific study through investigative-type projects in science;
- to encourage the use of creative and innovative methods in problem solving; and
- to heighten students' awareness and generate their interest in science research and technology development.

Details of the levels and categories are shown below.

Primary	58 (50%)
Secondary	58 (50%)

Engineering Sciences	14
Life Sciences	32
Information Technology	2
Environment	61
New Endeavours	7

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**Online Award Ceremony – Programme for both 2021 SYSF and 2021 OSTA:**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Event</b>
2.30 – 2.35 pm	Opening Address by Chairman of SYSF 2021, Mr Tham Hanrong
2.35 – 2.55 pm	Speeches by Chief Executive, Science Centre, Singapore – A/Prof Lim Tit Meng Special Guest from Abbott – Mr Sri Kameswaran GOH – Mrs Chua Yen Ching
2.55 – 3.20 pm	Presentation of Science Youth Science Fair Awards by Chairman of STAS, Mr Jay Mahardale
3.20 – 3.25 pm	Sharing by Ai Tong school on their experience in SYSF 2021
3.25 – 3.45 pm	Presentation of Science Youth Science Fair Awards by CE SCS, A/P Lim Tit Meng
3.45 – 4.00 pm	Presentation of Outstanding Science Teacher Award (OSTA) by GOH, Mrs Chua Yen Ching
4.00 – 4.05 pm	Virtual group photo of OSTA winners and guests
4.05 – 4.10 pm	Closing address by Mr Jay Mahardale

#### **4.3. 2022 OUTSTANDING STEM TEACHER AWARD OSTA (STEM)**

The OSTA (STEM) will be held from 22 Nov to 24 Nov 2022.

- honour dedicated, creative and effective teachers of STEM learning;
- recognise and promote excellence in teaching practice;
- encourage good practices of teaching and learning STEM in schools; and
- focus public attention on the positive aspects of STEM education

The OSTA nominees ought to be teachers who:

- ignite a passion for STEM in their students, encouraging them to *Be Curious, Be Creative and Be the Change*;
- use innovative and effective approaches to engage diverse students in STEM learning; and
- inspire other STEM educators through collaboration and Professional Development.

The nomination and short-listing is on-going.

The awards will be presented at the Singapore International Science Teachers' Conference (SISTC) on 22 November 2022 by the Guest of Honour.

#### 4.4. 2022 SINGAPORE INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE TEACHERS' CONFERENCE SISTC

The SISTC will be held from 22 Nov to 24 Nov 2022. The conference will be jointly organised by Science Teachers Association of Singapore (STAS), Academy of Singapore Teachers (AST), Curriculum Planning and Development Division (CPDD), Science Centre Singapore (SCS), the Natural Sciences and Science Education (NSSE) Academic Group from NIE and the Singapore Association for the Advancement of Science (SAAS).

##### **Theme: Reflect. Refine. Reimagine**

The objectives of the 2022 SISTC are:

- To promote science education and emphasise its key role in society, nation building and global impact.
- To initiate and lead discussions in signature pedagogies that prepare our learners so that they will be future ready for the exciting world which they will live and work in;
- To develop teacher competencies in the following aspects of Practices of Science:
  - Demonstrating Ways of Thinking and Doing in Science,
  - Understanding Nature of Scientific Knowledge and
  - Relating Science-Technology-Society-Environment
- To provide an international platform for local & overseas science educators to share effective practices and innovative strategies to enhance the rigour and joy of learning Science for our students

The Guest of Honour will be Minister for Education, Mr Chan Chun Sing. He will present the OSTA STEM awards and officially launch SISTC 2022.

##### Keynote speakers

1. Mr Steve Spangler, Founder of Steve Spangler Science and Be Amazing Toys (USA), TV Personality, Famous YouTuber.
2. Professor Amanda Berry, School of Curriculum, Teaching and Inclusive Education, Monash University (Australia)
3. Professor Song Jinwoong, Professor and HOD of Physics Education, Seoul National University (SNU), Director, SNU Centre for Educational Cooperation (SNU CEC)
4. Professor Christine Harrison, Science Education, King's College London (UK)
5. Professor Jackie Ying Yi-Ru, Senior Fellow and Director, NanoBio Lab, A\*STAR (Singapore)

##### Spotlight session speakers

1. Associate Prof Teo Tang Wee, Co-Head, Multi-centric Education, Research and Industry STEM Centre, NIE (Singapore)
2. Associate Prof Sirene Lim, Vice Dean and Head, Early Childhood Education, SUSS (Singapore)
3. Dr Charles Chew Ming Kheng, Lecturer, Natural Sciences & Science Education, NIE (Singapore)
4. Dr Azilawati Jamalulin, Assistant Dean, Science of Learning in Education, NIE (Singapore)
5. Dr Emily Curren, Marine Biologist at Tropical Marine Science Institute, National University of Singapore (Singapore)

#### 4.5. 2022-2023 EVENTS



**SCIENCE TEACHERS  
ASSOCIATION OF SINGAPORE**

*Promoting the advancement of Science Education*

The events for 2022-2023 are as follows:

	<b>2022 Singapore International Science Teachers' Conference</b>	<b>2023 Singapore Youth Science Fair</b>	<b>2023 Outstanding Science Teacher Award</b>
<b>Date</b>	<b>22 – 24 Nov</b>	<b>Jan – Aug 2023 (TBC)</b>	<b>Jan – Aug 2023 (TBC)</b>

**Report prepared by**

Irene Tan (Ms)  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chairman

**With input from**

Jay Mahardale (Mr)  
Chairman

Abdul Mannan (Mr)  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chairman