

# Iowa Academy of Science

## Who are we?

***"Doing business without advertising is like winking at a girl in the dark. You know what you are doing, but nobody else does."* -Stuart Henderson**

The Academy is a 501c3 Non-profit service organization, established in 1875. The Mission of the Iowa Academy of Science is to further scientific research, science education, public understanding of science, and recognition of excellence in these endeavors.

Membership in the Academy includes membership in up to 4 Academy sections, or areas of scientific research.

- |   |                                      |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| a Anthropology                          | a Cellular, Molecular & Microbiology |
| a Chemistry                             | a Community College Biologists       |
| a Ecology & Conservation                | a Engineering                        |
| a Environmental Science & Health        | a Geology                            |
| a Iowa Science Teaching                 | a Organismal Biology                 |
| a Physics, Atmospheric & Space Sciences | a Physiology & Health Sciences       |

But what does this mean? How do we explain what we do to other scientists and to Iowans? To reach the four goals of our mission, it is essential that the public and scientific community of Iowa understand what the Academy is. We ask that you contribute your vision for your section by attending your section meeting and participating in the discussion.

Please bring this packet with you to the section meeting of your choice, use it to record your own views about your section and its science. At the end of the meeting, leave it with your Section Chair or with Toni Arends at the registration desk.

*"Regard your good name as the richest jewel you can possibly be possessed of - for credit is like fire; when once you have kindled it you may easily preserve it, but if you once extinguish it, you will find it an arduous task to rekindle it again. The way to gain a good reputation is to endeavor to be what you desire to appear. "*—Socrates

### **IAS Logo—A symbol of our legacy.**



During its one hundred year history, the Iowa Academy of Science has developed into a multidisciplinary state scientific society whose membership encompasses individuals from many walks of life. This diversity finds commonality in the four-part theme for the Centennial Observance. The Centennial Committee created a logo that includes the four aspects of the theme which it feels will transcend the next century. The four spokes made up of the letters i-a-s begin in the center with "i" for Iowa and extend outward to include the other two letters which are the initials for "academy" and "science," referring to the body of Iowans involved in many aspects of science education, teaching, and research. At the periphery of the logo are four "trianguloids" each with an individual design. The lower right symbol implies the importance of the interaction of "people-kind" – both man and woman – in every endeavor concerning the quality of life. The upper right symbol emphasizes the center of our solar system and the primary source of energy and maintenance of life. The lower left symbol depicts the basic structure of all matter. The upper left symbol is an oak leaf portraying our environment and its strengths and weaknesses. The symbols and letters are so arranged so as to harmonize all of these ideas in a simple and appropriate logo.

**Section Profile**  
**Part ONE—What is this science?**

**A. You are riding a greyhound bus from the Quad-Cities to Sioux City. The person in the seat next to you asks:**

**What is \_\_\_\_\_?**  
*(insert your section title in the blank)*

**You have the next 6 hours to explain...what do you say?**

**Ok, now let's be realistic. This guy's eyes are likely to glaze over after the first two sentences. Rewrite your explanation in 20 words or less:**

*The most exciting phrase to hear in science, the one that heralds new discoveries, is not 'Eureka!' (I found it!) but 'That's funny ...' -Isaac Asimov (1920 - 1992)*

**Section Profile**  
**Part ONE—What is this science?**

**B. Answer as many of the following as you can.**

- 1. What sciences are included in this field and/or what other names is this science known as?**
  
- 2. Which scientist do you admire most in this field?**  
(of all scientists ever, throughout all time, throughout the entire world?)
  
- 3. Which Iowa scientist do you admire most in this field?**
  
- 4. Which living Iowa scientist do you admire most in this field?**
  
- 5. What is the greatest contribution to this field by an Iowan?**
  
- 6. What is the greatest contribution this field has made to the world?**
  
- 7. Where do scientists in this field work?**
  
- 8. What do scientists in this field wear to work?**
  
- 9. How much education do people in this science need?**
  
- 10. Why did you become a scientist?**
  
  
- 11. Why did you pick this field?**

## Section Profile

### Part TWO—WHICH RESEARCH?

Your employer has hired a new scientist/science teacher/engineer. This person is from outside of Iowa. Explain to him/her what type of research is presented during your section meeting at the Annual Meeting.

*The cloning of humans is on most of the lists of things to worry about from Science, along with behavior control, genetic engineering, transplanted heads, computer poetry and the unrestrained growth of plastic flowers. —Lewis Thomas (1913 - 1993)*