

**New York State Science Education Leadership Association (NYSSELA)**  
*2014 Annual Meeting, STANYS Conference*  
*Rochester, New York*

Welcome to the 2014 Annual Meeting of NYSSELA. Times of great turmoil and change often provide opportunities for engagement, reflection and growth. In this sense we are fortunate to be able to contribute to the regional, statewide, national and international discussions about the future direction of science and science education. Our regular participation in the New York State Science Education Summits has, arguably, been our greatest contribution over the past several years. The following issues have been in the forefront of efforts over the past year:

1. The development of a statewide strategic plan for science. This discussion will also include the ultimate decision, by New York State, about how to address the Next Generation Science Standards. In concert with the statewide science education consortium we are supporting a year of discussion and development of a NYS adaptation. It has been hoped that the Board of Regents may be able to vote on such an issue in late 2015 or early 2016.
2. STEM education has taken a leading role across NYS. Both the NYS STEM Education Collaborative and the Regional STEM Hubs have dramatically impacted current STEM efforts across NYS.
3. The adoption of a new model of teacher preparation and assessment, edTPA, is also sweeping the nation. We are fortunate today to have Dr. Thomas O'Brien, a professor from SUNY Binghamton, to address us today. This is an interesting, exciting and rigorous program. The implementation of the program has caused some consternation in many circles. Dr. O'Brien's comments will serve to help us develop a solid understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of this new approach.

We are in the process of developing a website with additional resources. The website may be found at:

<http://www.nysella.weebly.com>

We welcome your input and assistance and we move forward!