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Greetings,

This letter is to confirm and to describe the nature of the National Association for Research in Science Teaching's (NARST) International Conference in Denver, CO, one of the largest conferences focused exclusively on research into science and STEM teaching and learning. The conference will be held March 17-20 at Sheraton Denver Downtown hotel in Denver, CO.

The 2024 Annual International Conference for NARST will gives attendees an opportunity to attend science and science education-specific professional learning, which is critical to one's growth as a science teacher. The conference features over 21 clock hours of sessions focused on sharing research around key topics in science education, including the development and implementation of impactful science teaching approaches. The conference theme, *Science Education for the Rest of Us*, is intended to foreground the purpose of science education, and to draw our collective attention to the many socio-scientific issues that are increasingly important in modern society. As an attendee, this event will equip attendees with enhanced skills and knowledge on key areas vital to successful learning in science/STEM classrooms, including ensuring that teaching aligns with state teaching standards and research-based teaching pedagogy. Strands for the NARST conference include:

1. **Science Learning: Development of student understanding**
   How students learn from a variety of theoretical perspectives.
2. **Science Learning: Contexts, Characteristics and Interactions**
   Learning environments, teacher-student and student-student interactions, and factors related to and/or affecting learning.
3. **Science Teaching — Primary School (Grades preK-6): Characteristics and Strategies**
   Teacher cognition, content knowledge, pedagogical knowledge, pedagogical content knowledge, instructional materials and strategies.
4. **Science Teaching — Middle and High School (Grades 5-12): Characteristics and Strategies**
   Teacher cognition; content knowledge, pedagogical knowledge, pedagogical content knowledge, and instructional materials and strategies.
5. **College Science Teaching and Learning (Grades 13-20)**
   Instructor cognition, content knowledge, pedagogical knowledge, pedagogical content knowledge, student understanding and learning, and conceptual change at postsecondary levels.
6. **Science Learning in Informal Contexts**
   Learning and teaching in museums, outdoor settings, community programs, communications media and after-school programs.
7. **Pre-service Science Teacher Education**
   Pre-service professional development of teachers, pre-service teacher education programs and policy, field experience, and issues related to pre-service teacher education reform.
8. **In-service Science Teacher Education**
   Continuing professional development of teachers, in-service teacher education programs and policy, and issues related to in-service teacher education reform.
9. **Curriculum and Assessment**
   Curriculum development, change, implementation, dissemination and evaluation, including alternative forms of assessment of teaching and learning.

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10. **Cultural, Social, and Gender Issues**
    Equity and diversity issues: sociocultural, multicultural, bilingual, racial/ethnic, and gender equity studies.
11. **Technology for Teaching, Learning, and Research**
    Advancing applications of technology and digital tools to promote teaching, learning, and research.
12. **History, Philosophy, Sociology, and Nature of Science**
    Historical, philosophical and social issues of science as related to science education.
13. **Environmental Education and Sustainability**
    Education related to Earth and ecological systems, environmental literacy and justice, experiential learning, Indigenous perspectives, public participation in science, socioscientific issues, sustainability, and sustainable development.
14. **Policy, Reform, and Program Evaluation**
    The construction, interpretation, and implementation of science education policies and reforms at the local, regional, national, or international levels.

Attendees will also have the chance to explore exhibitions with industry experts, participate in live product demos, and explore new teaching and learning tools and resources that will help sharpen practice and boost student performance. The conference also provides opportunities to network with colleagues, education industry leaders, and solution providers.

Attendance at the 2024 Annual International Conference for NARST is a wise investment. Attendees will be able to bring home conference materials, allowing them to share their learning with others in the department.

Please let us know if there is any additional information we can provide.

Sincerely,

Dr. Lisa Martin-Hansen
NARST Executive Director