

# **Update to the Speaking of Science (SoS) Program A Board of Regents Science and Engineering Speakers Bureau**

## **DEFINITIONS:**

**presentation:** the act of presenting information or a message to an audience. may or may not include visual aids, live talks, digital talks, demonstrations, and/or hands on activities. A presentation is intended to last the duration of an average class period or meeting, 45-60 minutes.

**visual aid:** a digital, paper, or other media type display used to facilitate a presentation. Visual aids are encouraged but not required of participating scientists.

**excursion:** a learning adventure intended to bring science alive through physical interaction. Excursions may include but are not limited to speaker accompanied trips to museums, state or national parks, wildlife refuges, or to investigate other phenomena in the field. Excursions are identified by speakers, submitted for approval, and then listed on the SoS web catalogue.

**STEM day:** is a single day event held on a K-12 campus intended to engage students with a wide variety of STEM related learning and activities.

**round-robin:** an event format which establishes learning stations at various physical locations thereby allowing students to rotate through each experience, commonly found at STEM Days.

**school:** an institution of learning, (public, private, or homeschool) that provides educational services to children.

**SoS event:** a scheduled occurrence of Speaking of Science services to a school/organization occurring in a single day.

example: Hogwarts School of Wizardry held an SoS event with Dr. Doe where students interacted with five types of polymers.

## **RULES:**

### **Eligibility**

1. Individuals who hold a regular tenure track or tenured position in a STEM related field at a Louisiana public institution of higher education or at a private institution that is a member of the Louisiana Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, are eligible to participate as speakers.

**example 1:** Dr. Doe is the chair of the biological sciences department and wants to develop a SoS presentation regarding Louisiana fish species. Dr. Doe is a tenured professor in biology, a STEM field. He is eligible to participate.

**example 2:** Dr. Smith is the chair of the Engineering Department and wants to develop a SoS presentation regarding the Peloponnesian Wars. Dr. Smith's application would be denied.

**example 3:** Dr. Jones is a tenured professor in the Library & Information Science department and wants to develop a presentation to showcase his new experimental mapping software for oil spills. Dr. Jones new technology falls under the T in STEM and would be eligible for support.

2. SoS speakers are available to make presentations to public schools, private schools, homeschool associations, museums, libraries, universities, civic organizations, and business/industry.

**example 1:** Ms. Smith is the parish coordinator for 7 K-12 schools in Lagniappe Parish. She wants to put together a parish-wide STEM Day at the local civic center and needs speakers. Because Ms. Smith is formally employed by the Lagniappe Parish School Board and is requesting speakers on behalf of K-12 students, Ms. Smith is eligible to request speakers via SoS..

**example 2:** Mr. Cunningham is planning a reunion for his Vietnam Veteran buddies and wants to invite an engineer to come and speak about advances in military technology over the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Unfortunately, Mr. Cunningham is a private citizen organizing a personal event which is ineligible.

**example 3:** Ms. Williams is the registered Scoutmaster for Troop 789 sponsored by American Legion Post #456 and wants her scouts to learn about Louisiana flora via an excursion to a local wildlife refuge. Because Ms. Williams is the representative of a civic organization, BSA and the American Legion, she is eligible to request an available excursion via SoS.

### ***Honorariums***

1. Compensation is capped at \$6,000.00 per speaker, per calendar year.
2. Presentation honorariums are governed by the following:
  - a. max 2 presentations per visit/event/invoice
  - b. max \$200 per presentation
  - c. max \$400 per visit/event/invoice
3. STEM Day honorariums are governed by the following:
  - a. 0-4 hours (half day)- \$250
  - b. 4-8 hours (whole day)- \$500
  - c. max \$500 per day/event/visit
4. Excursion honorariums are governed by the following:
  - a. 0-4 hours (half day) - \$250
  - b. 4-8 hours (whole day) - \$500
  - b. max \$500 per day/event/visit

### ***Requests***

1. Requests must be received at least two weeks prior to scheduled speaking event.
2. Requesting organizations are limited to 1 request per day.
3. Multiple day events are not supported by Speaking of Science.
4. Failure to submit an Event Documentation Form from a prior event shall result in suspension of program eligibility for the requesting organization.