



L² Newsletter

National Science Center
Foundation, Inc.

Volume XII, Issue I
September 2002

Learning Logic Schools

TEACHER TRAINING

Did your school participate?

This summer the NSCF trained 25 people, including classroom teachers new to L², experienced L² teachers, a department head, a backup teacher, a technology coordinator, a curriculum coordinator, a guidance counselor, and an administrator.

The participating schools included the following: Aiken High School, Apalachee High School, Charter Conservatory for Liberal Arts and Technology, Effingham High School, Emanuel County Institute, Faith Christian School, Harris County High School, Jones County High School, Oak Grove High School, Screven County Middle School, South-

west High School, Washington-Wilkes High School, and Winder-Barrow High School.

NEW LEARNING LOGIC SCHOOLS

The National Science Center Foundation, Inc. welcomes our new L² schools! Charter Conservatory for Liberal Arts and Technology in Statesboro, Georgia, E.C. Glass in Lynchburg, Virginia, and Faith Christian School in Hendersonville, North Carolina.

STUDENT HANDBOOKS

Although the new school year has already begun, several schools have not requested their Student Handbooks. Please call Lisa Macuch at 706.868.3624 to have yours shipped today.

ACTIVITY REPORT CHANGES

Several teachers have requested a revision of the Activity Report in order to make its content more pertinent and user-friendly. Please fax, mail, or e-mail any suggestions which would make this report easier to read. Please include as much detail as possible in your suggestions as to what we should change and what not to change. If there is enough interest in changing the format, we will add it to our list of current projects.

UPDATE TRAINING

Please make plans to join us here in Augusta, Georgia on July 18, 2003, for the next annual Update Training for experienced L² teachers!

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Learning Disabilities Applications of Learning Logic

There has been a request to make Learning Logic screens easier to view for persons with color blindness.

We have developed a method to display the Learning Logic screens as a gray-scale image. This is similar to watching a black and white TV.

If you would like to participate in the testing of this option, please call the Learning Logic Help Desk for instructions on starting a Learning Logic session in gray scale instead of color.

Other applications of Learning Logic in learning disabilities

environments are being explored by the National Science Center Foundation staff. Visually impaired and hearing disabled students are the target of this study. For details, please contact Director of Educational Programs - Lisa Macuch at 706.868.3624.

Special points of interest:

- If you have not already done so, please fax your Teacher Information Form to update our records for the current school year.



ESOL End-of-Course
Biology Review

ESOL End-of-Course Biology Review

The National Science Center Foundation, Inc. is in the final stages of completing an ESOL study whereby biology EOCT review questions have been written by Butler High School biology teachers in Augusta, Georgia and coded internally to be driven by our Learning Logic software.

Topics include Science Process Skills, the Nature of Biology, Cellular Biology, Biochemistry, Genetics, Evolution, Classification, Viruses, Monerans, and Protists, Fungi, Botany, Zoology, Human Biology, and Ecology. Alpha testing should be complete by November.

This is a very exciting project, and the NSCF hopes to complete such review questions for the other seven End-of-Course-Test requirements mandated by the state of Georgia by Spring 2003.

MATHSCOT Contest



"Create artwork depicting a mascot for L²!"

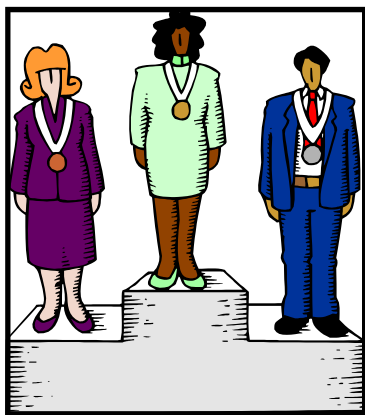


The goal of this contest is to create artwork depicting a mascot for the Learning Logic (L²) mathematics program of the National Science Center Foundation, Inc. (NSCF).

There will be separate prizes for teachers and students. Entries must be produced by the entrant and may not incorporate previously copyrighted or trademarked material.

Entry forms and contest rules can be printed from the L² Teacher Interface. They can also be viewed or printed from the Learning Logic website at <http://www.nscf.org>. The contest runs from September 3 through November 21, 2002. All entries must be received by November 21, 2002 to be eligible. Participants can only be students or teachers currently

using the L² program at schools that have submitted a completed participation approval form. Entries will be judged by a panel consisting of NSCF staff and local teachers. Void where prohibited by law. All decisions of the panel are final. A list of winners and their schools will be posted on our website on December 12, 2002.



The Mathscot prizes are as follows:

1. Student first prize: **Sony PlayStation 2**
2. Teacher first prize: **digital camera**
3. Student second prize: **Sharper Image Motorized Scooter**
4. Teacher second prize: **PDA (Personal Digital Assistant)**
5. Student third prize: **Sony CD Walkman**
6. Teacher third prize: **TI 83 Plus Graphing Calculator**
7. Student honorable mention: **(5) Music CD's**
8. Teacher honorable mention: **(5) thermal blankets**

New President and CEO brings new ideas

His office isn't even unpacked, but James Vinson has already hit the ground running. As the newly appointed President and Chief Executive Officer of the National Science Center Foundation, Inc., Dr. Vinson is busy meeting other community leaders and charting the next course for the Foundation. "I'm excited about my new position and being in Augusta," he said.

The NSCF, located on a 100-acre park off Gordon Highway, is a nonprofit organization committed to developing new approaches to utilize technology in the teaching of mathematics and science.

With a doctorate in physics, Dr. Vinson has an extensive resume. Before taking his post in Augusta, he served as president of the University of Evansville, Indiana for 14 years. He also has served as Vice President for Academic Affairs at Trinity University in San Antonio and as Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Hartford, in West Hartford, Connecticut, and taught physics and computer sciences at several universities and colleges.

One of his first priorities is to expand the reach of the Foundation's Learning Logic program. A highly sophisticated,

self-paced computerized teaching program, it has been used in middle and high school math classes throughout the nation.

In the future, Dr. Vinson hopes to extend this type of program into other academic subjects. "We want to expand our mission eventually, and in that expansion we hope to align ourselves with other businesses and organizations to develop some strategic partnerships," he said.

Dr. Vinson is replacing Dr. Fred C. Davison, who remains with the Foundation as a consultant.



"NSCF President and CEO Dr. James S. Vinson hopes to expand the Foundation's focus."



TEACHER TRAINING PARTICIPANTS

June 10, 2002 Session - from left to right:

Seven on front row: Marsha McTeer, Nancy Woods, Richelle Love-Wallace, Dixie Pearson, Carol Gilbreath, Joseph Smith, Lisa Macuch

Five on second row: Melanie Rewcastle, Patti Hill, Juletta Weaver, Pam Clifton, Jack Hamner

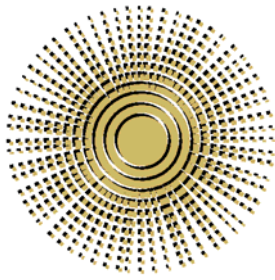
Eight on top row: Kevin Judy, Derrick Hendricks, Lydia Miller, Billy Pollock, Dan Cote, David Steele, Carolyn Carter, Bill Kujawa



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We're on the web!
www.nscf.org

Future Growth of the National Science Center Foundation, Inc.

The work of the Foundation over the last decade was focused primarily on the creation of Learning Logic, which is a self-paced, highly individualized, mastery-based Algebra program that has been proven very effective in schools throughout the country.

Over 100,000 students have utilized Learning Logic in its current state, and our plan for the next decade is to expand the areas of discipline of this courseware to cover all science and mathematics courses required in Middle School curriculums and beyond.

While the Foundation's past growth has been steadily arithmetic, we recognize the need to develop partnerships outside school systems that will foster our original mission statement in an exponential manner.

Symbiotic relationships with agencies of like missions are being identified and nurtured into real productivity. For example, we are exploring the possibility of Learning Logic becoming web-based in the future, thus broadening our capability to reach vast numbers of learners throughout

the world. There are also plans for topics that will be written to help prepare high school students for SAT Review and End-of-Course Testing that is now required by most states.

While our nation is still at risk with regard to our children's performance in the sciences and mathematics, the Foundation firmly believes that to harness technology in a fashion consistent with legitimate learning techniques, we can help catapult our students into a vastly improved environment for success in these areas of educational studies.



Future Growth of NSCF