

BSCS names Powell new Exec Director

The BSCS Board of Directors announced their selection of Janet Carlson Powell as their new Executive Director, replacing current BSCS Executive Director Rodger W. Bybee, who stepped down on 30 June after 17 years with the organization; nine as Associate Director and eight as Executive Director. Chairman of the BSCS Board Jerry Waldvogel said, "The Board is delighted to welcome Janet as the sixth Executive Director of BSCS. Her deep knowledge of the organization's history, mission, and general operations, coupled with her nationally recognized accomplishments in curriculum design, professional development, and research and evaluation, make her the kind of innovative and dynamic leader that BSCS needs at this point in its history. What better way to celebrate the 50th anniversary year of BSCS than to see the mantle of leadership passed on to such a worthy science educator."

Powell has served the organization as Associate Director and Chief Science Education Officer, as well as Director of the Center for Research and Evaluation for the past seven years. In addition, she has 10 years experience at BSCS working on a broad range of projects. "I look forward to leading BSCS into the second half of our first century," said Powell. "The U.S. in particular and the world at large need more students who understand the nature of science and how to make decisions based on scientific evidence. The staff and partners of BSCS are among the greatest resources available for making a difference in achieving that goal."

Of Carlson Powell's appointment, departing Executive Director Bybee said, "BSCS's selection of Janet Carlson Powell as the sixth executive director will continue the long and rich tradition of leadership in science education. Janet has the vision BSCS needs for the first decades of the 21st century. I am very excited for both Janet and BSCS."

Powell has been active in science education for more than 20 years with a range of experience including teaching middle school and high school life and earth science, teaching science methods for pre-service and master teachers, developing university-school partnerships to improve science teaching and learning, developing innovative science curriculum materials, leading professional development activities in science education, and conducting school-based research.