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From the Editor

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Welcome to your second issue of *SciTech News* for 2011!

In just over a month, SLA will be invading Philadelphia. Inside this issue, you'll find lots of information about the 2011 SLA Annual Conference and the sessions being presented by our contributing divisions and sections. From the “Science of Ice Cream” to “Tweets from Space,” there are educational sessions for EVERY interest at SLA Annual Conference. I encourage you to peruse the Division News pages for previews of upcoming conference sessions then check out the online conference planner at https://www.slaconference.org/scheduler/newCatalog.do.

In addition to the educational offerings at Annual Conference, there will be many opportunities to network with your colleagues, meet new people, and get involved with your divisions and sections. I encourage you to take full advantage of the SLA conference schedule:

- Attend the business meetings of the divisions and sections to which you belong. This allows you to get to know the leadership of your divisions and sections, learn about the issues affecting the units to which you belong, and find out about opportunities to serve SLA and give back to the profession.

- When sessions are over in the evening, take advantage of the various social opportunities on the SLA schedule. Unit open houses and socials provide you a chance to refuel after a long day of conference activities, meet new people, and discuss professional issues with your colleagues.

- Don’t forget about the opening and closing general sessions. This year, Thomas Friedman, foreign affairs columnist for the *New York Times* and author of *Hot, Flat, and Crowded: Why We Need a Green Revolution — and How It Can Renew America*, is the speaker at the Opening General Session. James Kane, an expert on building loyalty and connections, will close the conference. If you didn’t have a chance to see James speak at the 2010 SLA Leadership Summit in St. Louis, you do not want to miss his session!

If you are unable to physically attend the conference, there’s also a virtual conference option being offered again this year. For information about the virtual component of the conference, please see http://sla2011.tornado1.com/general-information/virtual-component/.

I look forward to seeing you in Philadelphia! 

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