



# SCHOOL SCENE

Spring 2016



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# President's Welcome

Hey Georgia TSA!

What an honor it is to serve our amazing organization for another year as the 2016-2017 State President. Over the past year in TSA, we have been working hard "Building a Legacy". We've reached new heights of membership and have already crowned state champions in numerous competitive events. Our new State Officer team will work hard at work preparing the upcoming year. As we head into the upcoming school year, the building doesn't seem to be stopping. In all, it is the members of the Georgia Technology Student Association that are the biggest of dreamers, and it is those members that have built the successful legacy our organization holds today. Without our members, conferences would not be possible, events would not be competitive, and we, without a doubt, wouldn't be one of the largest state delegations in the nation. Not only have we designed our dreams, we've sparked new dreams as well. As leaders, we take the challenge of spreading our technological passion and teach others to learn to live in a technical world. Technology is the growing field in the world today; we are the future, and we are the Technology Student Association. Through constant work in Inventions and Innovations or continuous Problem Solving, TSA is shaping the future and forming tomorrow's leaders. We are the students that reach out to others and inspire them to do their best. Our competitive attitudes take us to the top and earn us a spot on stage. We spend countless hours working on projects and presentation skills, fighting our perfectionist attitudes. But, then we realize who we are. Georgia TSA doesn't settle for anything less than greatness. Our quality is what makes Georgia TSA stand out. It's quality that makes our dreams become reality. I can't wait to see you all at CORE and throughout the upcoming year as we all come together in building our Georgia TSA legacy. Georgia TSA will provide the tools for building, and we, together, will put them to action!



-Trevor Terry, State President



# Price's Point



Hello GA TSA.

Congratulations on another outstanding TSA year. We have had 4 great conferences this year. Our “Bro-Team” state officers have been exceptional, creative, brave, entertaining, and the epitome of “Living in a Technical World”!! They have increased the social media access to the association tremendously. Your board of directors have been anything but stagnant. They have worked to make some changes to our conferences that have improved the schedule as well as content. We have been able to keep our conference registration rates from rising, while at the same time providing quality conferences and take-home items, thanks to our generous sponsors. For the first time in over 20 years, all of the competitive event highest placing teams or individuals going to Nashville this summer will receive a travel scholarship. That’s over \$16,000!! We will be scheduling buses for the trip from Georgia and hope to have a great delegation from Georgia in Nashville to bring back some trophies this summer.

The 16-17 Calendar is posted on the website for those working on their planning for next year. Please start early to plan to attend CORE in September. The Registration deadline is in August. Please don’t hesitate to share your ideas that will help make our association even better for our 25,000 members.

Thank you for a great year,  
Steve Price, Executive Director

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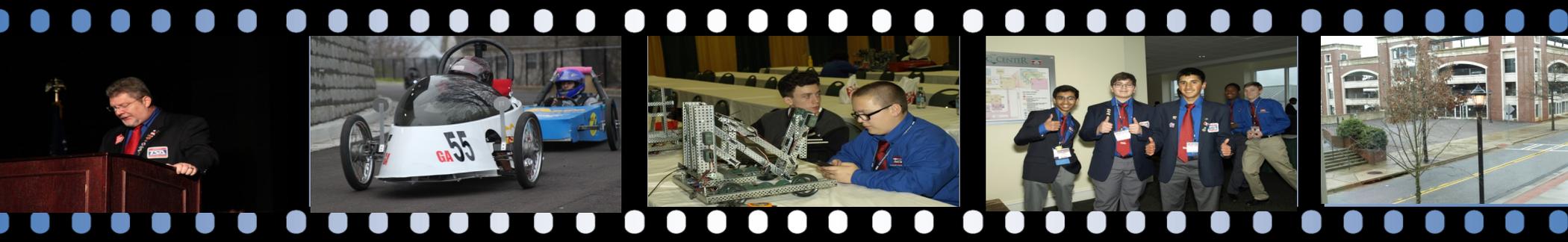


# SLC 2016

The Classic Center, Athens GA

The annual State Leadership Conference was successful once again at the 2015 Conference in Athens. The highlights of every Conference include the experiences in communication, competition, and leadership, and SLC has once again met all of those guidelines. This year, Georgia saw another attendance record fall with over 2,500 members. With TSA growing and developing, it is fantastic that we have managed to keep our roots and continue to be an outstanding CTSO.

The chance to make new friends and meet new people is always a significant factor in any TSA Conference. With its plethora of attendees, SLC provides the perfect environment to collaborate with other chapters. With over 70 events, SLC is by far the leading Conference in competition. Events ranged from Animatronics, VEX Robotics, Electrathon, to Manufacturing Prototype. These events allow members the chance to test their skills, as well as explore new interests in the industrial and corporate setting. This year's Conference saw the inauguration of the 2016-2017 State Officer Team, led by Mr. Trevor Terry, by the 2015-2016 State Officer Team. These new Officers will work towards planning for exciting experiences throughout the upcoming year.



# ACS Fundraiser

At this past state conference, Georgia TSA continued its partnership with the American Cancer Society. The 2014-2015 State Officer Team took on a fundraising challenge that allowed members to add money to a bucket with a state officer's name. The officer with the most money at the conclusion of the conference would be slimed. The members chose 2014-2015 State President Jack Crawford and current National TSA Vice President. In the whole exciting experience, it is the joining of forces between the Technology Student Association and the American Cancer Society that is the best of efforts. Through this fundraiser, Georgia TSA, along with the rest of National TSA's region two, raised over \$3,400. We would like to thank all of you for your countless efforts in our fight against cancer. The success gained wouldn't be possible without you!

-Trevor Terry



2015-2016 State President, Trevor Terry, slimes 2014-2015 State President, Jack Crawford in Georgia TSA's fundraiser for the American Cancer Society



# Well Done, Bro-Team!



President Trevor Terry and his team served at the 2015 State Leadership Conference in Athens to serve for the Georgia TSA Delegation.



# Congratulations 2016-17 State Officer Team!



Our incoming state officer team should be familiar to most of you. We have four that were re-elected from this past year and two that served previously. So this year's team has a great deal of experience going into the new year.

President - **Trevor Terry** - Lowndes HS

Vice President - **Austin Futch** - Fitzgerald HS

2nd Vice Pres - **Hannah Puckett** - Ben Hill MS

Secretary - **Swapnil Lad** - Lambert HS

Treasurer - **Raines Evans** - Fitzgerald HS

Reporter - **Alexander King** - GW Carver HS

Sgt at Arms - **Preston Crawford** - Lowndes HS



# SLC Awards



Congratulations to all of our State Leadership Conference Participants and winners for your hard work that lead to your success.

- Outstanding Middle School Chapter - **Franklin County Middle School**
- Outstanding High School Chapter - **Parkview High School**
- Inspirational Teacher Middle School - **Blaire Booth - East Coweta Middle School**
- Inspirational Teachers High School - **John Newton and Cammie Lund - Lowndes High School**

Please visit our Website to view the top ten lists for each event from this year at

<http://ems.gatsa.org/results>



# A Great Year

Thank you so much to the outgoing Board of Directors and State Officer Team. We would like to wish these tremendous teams the best of luck in the future, as well as thank them for their contribution throughout the past year.



2015-16 Board of Directors



2015-2016 State Officer Team



# Nashville 2016



Part of the National Officer Team this year was our own Jack Crawford who serves as National Vice President.



The 2016 TSA National Leadership Conference this year will be held in nearby Nashville, Tennessee at the Gaylord Opryland Resort Hotel and Conference Center. We hope to have a large delegation of our Georgia TSA Chapters there to represent our state.

Registration deadline is Friday, June 3rd. Access the National Conference Registration Information through this url:

<http://www.tsaweb.org/node/378>



# CORE 2016

Start now to plan for CORE, Ga TSA's Chapter Officer Training for Excellence Conference.

The CORE program is designed to provide Georgia TSA local chapter officers with an opportunity to develop interpersonal and leadership skills in a camp environment, to gain necessary knowledge and abilities to carry out the duties of their individual offices, and prepare a Chapter Program of Work for the upcoming year. The 2016 CORE Conference will be held at The Kaplan Mitchell Retreat and Conference Center on September 16-18, 2016.

## Other Opportunities

**High Ropes Course** - For an additional fee this team building experience is a first come first served activity. We also have a climbing wall and outdoor activities

**Statesman Test** – Participants will have an opportunity to take the Statesman Award test on Saturday evening after dinner. A study guide can be found in the links column to the right.

**Leukemia and Lymphoma Light the Night Walk** – We will hold a Light the Night walk after the Talent Showcase on Saturday evening. Fabulous prizes awarded to the "Brightest Chapter". Be creative! Use flashlights, glowsticks, anything but an open flame to illuminate your chapter for the night walk!



# Vivek Patel

## Alumni Spotlight

Vivek Patel grew up knowing that he wanted to be an entrepreneur. He knew he was interested in healthcare and technology but didn't know where or how to start something big. He needed guidance. He needed to develop into a leader. He needed to hang out with the right crowd. That's when he found the Technology Student Association. Vivek joined TSA in eighth grade as an admittedly shy and nerdy individual, after just his first year, he was a new person; he had finally found his "clique." He attended his first state conference as a freshman. One of his most vivid memories was sitting with his school chapter at the TSA state conference's opening ceremony and seeing the state officers walk onto the stage. He noticed their stage presence and their confidence - he couldn't take his eyes off of them. With absolutely no apparent stage fright or nervousness, they were speaking before an audience of over a thousand people. Vivek assumed they were some special, elusive breed of humans that he could never become.



However, his view of them changed the next day when he met one of the state officers at a competition. Vivek was afraid to approach her at first, but an unexpected surge of confidence led him to start a conversation with her. He immediately realized how "normal" this state officer was. She wasn't some supernatural being like he expected. She was just a high school student who had done something different to separate her from the rest of the crowd. As cliché as this may sound, Vivek believes it was this moment that changed his life. Through TSA he realized that successful people were just normal people who just did something different and that he too could achieve the same level of success by simply thinking differently. This change in mindset was the catalyst for his successes in the coming years. After state conference his freshman year, he attended every single TSA conference and became a well-known member. Vivek gave his first speech in front of over a thousand people at the opening ceremony of his third state conference as a junior in high school. He was elected to serve as GATSA's state treasurer for the following year. Looking back, learning that he could do anything he set his mind to, was his greatest takeaway from TSA. After giving his first speech at state conference; he fell in love with public speaking. Vivek regularly gives speeches to high schools and middle schools to motivate kids to strive for more and achieve their full potential in life.

In the coming year, Vivek was awarded the Gates Millennium Scholarship for his achievements in high school such as placing in Intel's International Science fair and winning first place at the national symposium for scientific research; he attributes this success to his membership in TSA.

Today Vivek is living out his entrepreneurial dreams as a college student at the University of Georgia. In 2012, he co-founded [tracemyimpact.com](http://tracemyimpact.com); a platform for tracking volunteer hours. In 2013, he co-founded the Pass It On movement at the University of Georgia, a movement to promote random acts of kindness in the community by making kindness fun by tracking the ripple effect of kind acts on the world through an app. And in 2014, he cofounded Toucan Tutoring, a platform for connecting college tutors to tutees. Toucan tutoring recently merged with a Silicon Valley based startup with similar interests and is now in its first round of venture capital funding.



# Articles of Importance

Tips for you for the upcoming year

## Taking Minutes

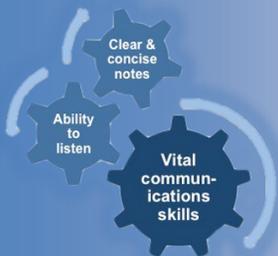
Minutes are legally binding documents that keep track of the business that occurs during meetings of an organization. The secretary is responsible for keeping the minutes, making sure they are accurate, and making sure that they are thorough. If there are no minutes for a meeting, and a conflict arises regarding a vote or something such as that, there will be no record of what actually happened, which will lead to a revote. If minutes are not accurate, the same thing can occur.

Not only can conflicts arise within the organization, but if something arises legally and there are no records of what was said or occurred, your organization can get into trouble legally. This mostly applies if you have elected to spend large amounts of money or to impeach an elected officer.

It is also important that minutes be approved at the next business meeting to avoid confusion and to make sure the members are informed to what the officer team has done. The most important things to remember are:

keep the minutes through, accurate, and up to date. You should also remember that the members were not at the meeting, so they need as much information that can be conveyed as possible.

- Austin Futch, Secretary

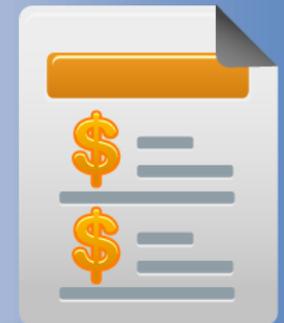


## Fundraising

Many clubs and organizations know the importance of fundraising. It is important to keep a good income within your organization, school, and chapter in order to receive the full TSA experience throughout the year. We fundraise for an obvious reason that every chapter sees as a haunting problem. Money is always a deciding factor for a chapter when it comes to deciding whether or not they are able to go to a conference. Fundraisers help off-set the costs of each of these conferences and for their members.

Silent auctions, movie nights, and other public events are successful fundraisers that, with a little work, can be very productive. Some quick and small fundraisers include: bake sales, car washes, and even individual fundraising. It is essential for chapters to lead fundraisers within their chapter and organization, because it leads to a fun and successful year for your chapter with a lesser worry on the money factors that could hold you back from the full TSA experience.

- Tyler Stretch, Treasurer



# Business and Industry

Here is a quick message from one of our Business and Industry members of the Georgia TSA Board of Directors:

I first became interested in science in grammar school, inspired by one of my favorite teachers in the seventh grade. My mother encouraged my science aspirations until she died, when I was thirteen. Although I enjoyed english literature, I followed a path of science and math into engineering. Joining the U.S. Navy as a nuclear reactor operator after high school I used everything that I had learned in school to pass a very challenging military program and begin my career as a nuclear engineer and international nuclear non-proliferation analyst. Today, I look back on those early years and thank my teachers for having the patience to keep me focused.



**David Hanks,**  
**Nuclear Regulatory Commission**



# SLC 2016 Conference Sponsors

## Conference Sponsors

### Gold Level



### Silver Level



Thank you to our SLC Conference Sponsors. We would like to recognize our Gold Level Sponsors, U.S Army and GM, our Silver Level Sponsors, AT&T, and Valdosta State University. It is thanks to your help that we can keep our registration costs down while still providing a worthy experience for our conference attendees. Thank you for seeing the value of our student association.



# Thank you Event Sponsors!!!

In this section of the School Scene, we would like to thank all of our sponsors! Without our sponsors, Georgia TSA would not be able to provide the quality competitive events as we do today! Their support keeps costs down for our members as well as provides judges for their events and travel scholarships for our top placing winners that will compete in the National Conference. Thank you to all of our event sponsors! We appreciate your involvement!

## EVENT SPONSORS

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