

**Application for ISTA Regional Director for Region 3**

**Don Powers**

School where you teach: Western Illinois University, Department of Curriculum & Instruction, Macomb, IL

**Education**

B.A. Science Teaching (1978, University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls)  
M.A. Science Education (1984, University of Northern Iowa)  
Ph.D. Curriculum & Instruction (1990, Kansas State University, Manhattan, in Science Education)

**Professional Affiliations**

ISTA (1989 – present)  
NSTA (1977 – present)  
Environmental Education Association of Illinois (EEAI)  
Science Olympiad

**Awards and Recognition:**

Project WILD Facilitator of the Year for Illinois, recognized by Illinois Department of Natural Resources. October, 2007.  
  
WIU COEHS Dean’s Award for Innovative Use of Technology in Teaching for 1998-99. Co-recipient with John Beaver, Kevin Finson & Don Nelson for *Science Spectrum* CD-ROM.

**Work Experience**

1989 to present – Professor, Curriculum & Instruction, Kellogg Science Education Center, Western Illinois University, Macomb  
1987 to 1989 – Graduate Assistant, Curriculum & Instruction, Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas  
1984 to 1987 – Science & Math teacher, Grundy Center HS, Grundy Center, IA  
1983 to 1984 – Graduate Assistant, Science Education Center, University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls, IA  
1980 to 1983 – Science Teacher, Anamosa Junior High/Middle School, Anamosa, IA  
1978 to 1980 – Science & Math Teacher, East Central High School, Miles, IA

**Additional experience:**

Director, Maurice G. Kellogg Science Education Center, Western Illinois University, Macomb, IL (2005 – present)  
Regional Director, Illinois Science Olympiad (1999 – present)  
Facilitator, NIMS Grant; Rock Island ROE, Lee Ogle ROE (multiple years)  
Facilitator, ISAMS Grant; East Moline HS, Kewanee/Wethersfield HS (multiple years)  
Facilitator for Project WILD; WILD Aquatics; Project Learning Tree; Project WET.  
Training Facilitator, STARLAB Planetarium; (multiple locations)  
Region III Director. Illinois Science Teachers Association (1997-99 & 2002-04)  
Director, WIU Science for Parents & Kids, Director (1991-94)  
Presenter, ISTA (1990-2011)  
Presenter, NSTA (1990, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 99, 2001, 02, 04, 05, 07, 09,10)

**Rationale for serving:**

I am presently serving as Regional Director for Region 3. I have been an active member of ISTA for 23 years and served on the ISTA Board previously (97-99 & 02-04). I feel ISTA can and should support Illinois science throughout the state. In my present position I have the opportunity to meet and work with a number of teachers and I think as Regional Director I can

serve as a link between those teachers and ISTA. ISTA members want our organization to provide them with support in advancing science and science education both in the formal classroom and outside of the formal classroom and I feel I have the background and experience to help accomplish this goal. I also work daily with future classroom teachers who will eventually become the leaders of ISTA. If elected as Regional Director I would continue to work to get these future teachers involved in ISTA early in their career so they can recognize the value of ISTA membership and continue as life-long members of our organization. I would also like to see ISTA have a stronger connection with the National Science Teachers Association, Illinois Science Olympiad, and because of science's natural connection with math, the Illinois Council of Teachers of Mathematics. I have also worked with ISTA in establishing and maintaining the ISTA Archives housed at WIU. Thank you for your consideration of my request to continue to serve as Regional Director.