

2012

TASSA ANNUAL REPORT



This report has been prepared for evaluating overall performance and development of TASSA

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Message from the President.....	3
1. Board of Directors, Executive Committee, Technical Groups and Standing Committee Meetings.....	4
2. TASSA Reorganization	5
3. Membership Activities	6
4. Communication with TASSA Community.....	6
5. TASSA Meetings with Other Institutions	7
6. Participation in Conferences.....	8
7. Research Workshop Series	8
8. Other TASSA Activities	9
9. TASSA Organizational Chart, Members of the Board and Committees.....	10
10. TASSA Institutional Members and 2012 Conference Sponsors.....	14
APPENDIX 1 – TASSA 2012 Conference	16
APPENDIX 2 – TASSA 2012 Activities	25

Message from the President



Dear Members of the TASSA Community,

I am very pleased to present to you the 2012 Annual Report of TASSA. This annual report describes TASSA's significant achievements during the last year. The initiatives in 2012 reflect a commitment to our enduring values of open and rigorous inquiry. At the same time they reflect the ambitions of the Turkish Science Diaspora in the U.S.A. to see these values manifest in new and innovative ways.

The following are highlights of the achievements of TASSA in 2012:

- Successfully organized TASSA Annual Conference in March 2012.
- Completed its reorganization and all the committees are up and functional.
- Held two Board of Directors meeting, five Executive Committee meeting, five Technical Group meetings and two Standing Committee Meetings.
- TASSA individual and institutional memberships have been activated and once again are on the rise.
- TASSA activities have been noticed by other Science Diaspora groups in the U.S.A and are being offered as a role model to these groups.
- Published four issues of TASSA's newsletter, *The Bridge* and reached out around 1,500 readers.
- Significant initiatives are being conceptualized (e.g. TASSA-Academy and TASSA-Connect) to strengthen the science bridge between the U.S.A. and Turkey.

I hope the contents of this report will encourage you to remain engaged with TASSA, as we continue to build on our tradition of inquiry in ways that make a positive impact on the science-based relationship between the U.S.A. and Turkey.

Enjoy our 2012 Annual Report and stay tuned in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Haluk Ünal".

Haluk Ünal,
Professor of Finance
TASSA President and Chairman of the Board

1. Board of Directors, Executive Committee, Technical Groups and Standing Committee Meetings

- Board of Directors meeting (March 14, 2012 and September 8, 2012).
- Executive Committee meeting (April 5, August 5, September 1 and November 18, 2012) and Vice Presidents' meeting (August 8).
- Technical Group Meetings:
 - Social Sciences and Arts & Humanities: September 19
 - Natural Sciences: September 21 and October 12
 - Engineering and Applied Sciences: October 1
 - Health and Biomedical Sciences: October 2
- Standing Committee Meetings:
 - Membership Committee: September 11
 - Web Committee: September 24 and October 1

2. TASSA Reorganization

- General Assembly elected TASSA President and Board of Directors at the TASSA Conference. Subsequently, the Board conducted an election for a vacancy in the Board.
- TASSA President appointed the four vice presidents of TASSA (Hasan Ayaz, Levent Güntay, Nilay Papila and Candan Tamerler) and the Editor of TASSA newsletter (Aylin Sagay).
- Executive Committee with consultation from the Board selected the nominees of Standing Committees and Technical Groups. TASSA President invited the nominees and invitations were accepted enthusiastically
- In accordance with the TASSA Bylaws, Chairman of the Board, Haluk Ünal appointed the Chairs of the Nominating Committee and the Audit Committee. The Nominating Committee members are Hüseyin Abut (Chair), Ayşe Imrohoroglu, Candan Tamerler, and Mehmet Toner. The Audit Committee members are Şebnem Kalemli-Özcan (Chair), Işıl Erel, and Daver Kahvecioğlu.
- Thus, TASSA re-organization is completed.

3. Membership Activities

- Contacted TASSA 2012 Conference sponsors and 2012 institutional members to collect the sponsorship payments and membership dues. All commitments by sponsors and institutional members are fulfilled.
- Carried out a descriptive statistical analysis of the TASSA members and contacts. Merged various TASSA member contact databases to obtain a unified database of member profile information. The databases that are merged are as follows: TASSA member database, 2012 Conference Registration, Conference Surveys, hand-collected email database, Google.docs survey database, and bounced e-mails database.
- Membership Committee conducted an institutional membership campaign. 142 universities in Turkey were invited to be institutional members via email and standard-mail in September 2012.
- TASSA has four official Technical Groups: Engineering and Applied Sciences, Health and Biomedical Sciences, Natural Sciences, and Social Sciences and Arts & Humanities. Executive Committee has started a project to update/correct the information of individual contacts in the TASSA database for these technical groups.

4. Communication with TASSA Community

- Uploaded TASSA 2012 Conference videos and pictures to the TASSA website.
- Announced Upcoming Events and Job Openings on the TASSA website.
- Provided support services on TÜBİTAK's Co-Circulation Program to TASSA contacts. TASSA Vice-president Dr. Nilay Papila started writing a regular column for "The Bridge" newsletter on grant opportunities that are available in Turkey and the European Community.
- Constructed a database on contact information of Senate and House Science committee members.
- The success stories and news of Turkish scientists and scholars were announced in "The Bridge" issues.
- Members were informed about various activities (e.g. students in the TASSA database were informed about a dinner gathering at the Turkish Embassy in Washington DC.)

TASSA Newsletter – The Bridge

- TASSA bi-monthly newsletter, *The Bridge*, was launched. Four issues were published and sent to all contacts in the TASSA database in May 2012, July 2012, September 2012 and December 2012.



- *The Bridge* readership reached around 1,500.

5. TASSA Meetings with Other Institutions

- TASSA President, Board and Executive Committee members (Haluk Ünal, Füsün Özgüner, Turgay Ertekin, Tuğba Güntay and Levent Güntay) met with the representatives of the U.S. Department of State on April 9, 2012 and discussed the role of TASSA for the science and technology cooperation between the U.S. and Turkey.

Attendees: Brian T. Carter (Foreign Affairs Officer, Office of Science and Technology Cooperation), Aprille C. Raabe (Foreign Affairs Officer, Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs), Semahat Demir (Biomedical Engineering Program Director, National Science Foundation).

- TASSA President, Board and Executive Committee members (Haluk Ünal, Füsün Özgüner, Turgay Ertekin, Tuğba Güntay and Levent Güntay) met with the representatives of Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBİTAK) at the Turkish Embassy. The agenda of the meeting was to develop a road map to make Turkey attractive for Turkish scientists and scholars abroad.

Attendees: Yunus Çengel (TÜBİTAK's Vice President), Ali Rıza Özdemir (TÜBİTAK Acting Head of Department, International Cooperation), Elif Özkaragöz (TÜBİTAK Scientific Program Expert).

- TASSA President, Board and Executive Committee members (Haluk Ünal, Füsün Özgüner, Turgay Ertekin and Tuğba Güntay) visited H.E. Namık Tan, Ambassador of the Republic of Turkey to the United States on April 9, 2012 at the Turkish Embassy in Washington, DC.

6. Participation in Conferences

- TASSA President and Managing Director attended TÜBİTAK's Research Destination Turkey 2012 Workshop at the University of Maryland, University College on April 10. TASSA President gave a keynote speech at the Workshop.
- Managing Director attended ATAA's 32nd Annual Convention on April 12 and 13, 2012 in Washington, DC.
- TASSA President Haluk Ünal and Board member Mehmet Toner gave presentations at the TÜBİTAK Congress of Turkish Scientists Abroad on July 12-13, 2012 in İstanbul. In addition, TASSA Board members, Murat Günel, Aydoğan Özcan, and Füsün Özgüner were also at the conference.
- TASSA Vice President Hasan Ayaz and Managing Director Tuğba Güntay attended the Global Diaspora Forum and Science Diaspora Conference on July 25 and 26 in Washington, DC.
- TASSA Vice Presidents, Candan Tamerler and Nilay Papila initially were planning to attend the Joint Commission Meeting (JCM) on Science and Technology Cooperation between USA-Turkey hosted by the Turkish Ministry of Science, Industry, and Technology on November 1-2, 2012 in Ankara. JCM was cancelled due to Hurricane Sandy but the working groups conducted discussions in conference calls and exchanged comments via emails.
- TASSA President, Haluk Ünal gave a presentation at the Globalization of Turkish Universities Workshop (Yükseköğretimde Uluslararasılaşma) on December 10, 2012 at İstanbul University.

7. Research Workshop Series

- The first Econ-Fin seminar was held at Ronald Reagan Building & International Trade Center on September 23, 2012. The presentation was by TASSA Board member, Prof Şebnem Kalemli-Özcan. The presentation and videos of the event were provided at the TASSA website.
- The first Engineering workshop was held at the Ohio State University campus on December 6, 2012. The presentation was by Prof Ümit V. Çatalyürek. The presentation slides and the videos of the workshop were provided at the TASSA website.

8. Other TASSA Activities

TASSA Grant Application

TASSA Vice President Hasan Ayaz led the effort to prepare and submit a grant application to the U.S. State Department for the funding of TASSA Boost Project.

Turkish Council of Higher Education (YÖK) Proposal

TASSA committees and technical groups analyzed the pros and cons of the YÖK's proposal and provided comments on the new Turkish higher education legislation. The comments were compiled in a detailed report. The report was submitted to YOK for consideration.

TASSA Web Committee Activities

TASSA Web Committee started working on improving to the membership functions of the website. New membership signup and profile pages were designed and implementation phase started. A backup web server has been prepared for test and development purposes before changes are finalized.

TASSA Web Committee started design and planning work for a new portal for TASSA members and affiliates to exchange information and resources. The portal, code named TASSA Connect, is planned to incorporate social networking features and initially will present a medium to post job openings and opportunities.

9. TASSA Organizational Chart, Members of the Board and Committees



Board of Directors: Eight Directors and the President, who is also the Chairman of the Board.

Executive Committee: President (CEO), Vice President, Treasurer (CFO and Chairman of the Finance Committee), Managing Director (COO), Editor, Standing Committee Chairs (4)

Board of Directors

Hüseyin Abut, San Diego State University

Turgay Ertekin, Pennsylvania State University

Murat Günel, Yale School of Medicine

Orhan Gürbüz, Tobolski Watkins Engineering Inc. & Gürbüz Consulting

Şebnem Kalemli-Özcan, University of Maryland

Aydoğan Özcan, UCLA

Füsün Özgüner, Ohio State University

Mehmet Toner, Harvard-MIT Division of Health Sciences and Technology

Haluk Ünal, University of Maryland (Chairman of the Board)

Board Committees

Audit Committee

Şebnem Kalemli-Özcan, University of Maryland (Chair)

Işıl Erel, Ohio State University

Daver Kahvecioğlu, American Institutes for Research

Nominating Committee

Hüseyin Abut, San Diego State University (Chair)

Ayşe Imrohoroğlu, University of Southern California

Candan Tamerler, University of Washington

Mehmet Toner, Harvard-MIT Division of Health Sciences and Technology

Executive Committee

Haluk Ünal, President

Hasan Ayaz, Vice President

Levent Güntay, Vice President

Nilay Papila, Vice President

Candan Tamerler, Vice President

Tuğba Güntay, Managing Director

Aylin Sagay, Editor

Refik Soyer, Treasurer

Standing Committees

Finance

Turan G. Bali, Georgetown University
Işıl Erel, Ohio State University
Ferhat Esen, The World Bank
Pinar Güvenir, Cagal and Associates, LLC
Levent Güntay, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation
Refik Soyer, George Washington University
Murat Tarımcılar, George Washington University

Membership

Hasan Ayaz, Drexel University
Sümer Can, Diodes, Inc.
Levent Güntay, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation
Nilay Papila, Science Connect Inc.
Candan Tamerler, University of Washington

Public Relations

Gizem Dönmez, Tufts University
Şeyda Ertekin, MIT
Nilay Papila, Science Connect Inc.
Burhaneddin Sandıkçı, University of Chicago

Relationship with Turkey

Hasan Ayaz, Drexel University
Turgut Gür, Stanford University
Daver Kahvecioğlu, American Institutes for Research
Ümit Özgüner, The Ohio State University
Nilay Papila, Science Connect Inc.
Candan Tamerler, University of Washington
Bülent Yavuz, Nanostellar, Inc.

Rules

Timur Edib, Timur Edib Law Office
Ferhat Esen, The World Bank
Tuğba Güntay, Turkish American Scientists and Scholars Association
Daver Kahvecioğlu, American Institutes for Research

Web

Murat Aksoy, Stanford University
Hasan Ayaz, Drexel University
Fatih Culha, Department of Defense
Yalçın Sert, Customs and Border Protection
Senay Solak, University of Massachusetts

Technical Groups

Engineering and Applied Sciences

Ertuğrul Çubukcu, University of Pennsylvania
Şeyda Ertekin, MIT Sloan School of Management
Metin Sitti, Carnegie Mellon University
Selim Ünlü, Boston University

Health and Biomedical Sciences

Hatice Altuğ, Boston University
Gizem Dönmez, Tufts University
Bahri Karaçay, University of Iowa
Nilgün Tümer, Rutgers University

Natural Sciences

Bülent Akgün, National Institute of Standards and Technology
Ertuğrul Taciroglu, UCLA
Serap Erdal, University of Illinois at Chicago
Batuhan Osmanoğlu, University of Alaska, Fairbanks

Social Sciences and Art & Humanities

Ayşe Imrohoroglu, University of Southern California
Hülya Eraslan, Johns Hopkins University
Çağlar Özden, The World Bank
Ahmet Yükleyen, University of Mississippi

10. TASSA Institutional Members and 2012 Conference Sponsors

TASSA 2012 Institutional Members

Championing Members



Ankara University



TURKISH AVIATION ACADEMY

Sustaining Members



Promoting Members



ANADOLU ÜNİVERSİTESİ



Kadir Has University



Kocaeli University



KOÇ UNIVERSITY



YAŞAR UNIVERSITY

Sponsor Members



Düzce University



İstanbul University

TASSA 2012 Conference Sponsors

Diamond Sponsors



BAHÇEŞEHİR
ÜNİVERSİTESİ



UNIVERSITY OF
MARYLAND
ROBERT H. SMITH
SCHOOL OF BUSINESS



TOBB
UNIVERSITY OF
ECONOMICS AND TECHNOLOGY

Gold Sponsors



Boğaziçi University



George Washington University
Journal of Financial Services Research

Silver Sponsors

ACAR
LAW
FIRM
PLLC



Sponsors



ATILIM
UNIVERSITY



APPENDIX 1

TASSA 2012 Conference

TURKISH AMERICAN SCIENTISTS AND SCHOLARS ASSOCIATION



2012 Annual Conference

March 3-4, 2012

University of Maryland at College Park
Van Munching Hall, Robert H. Smith School of Business



TASSA has completed another chapter with remarkable success by its Annual Conference that brought together more than 400 prominent scientists and scholars from leading American and Turkish institutions as well as decision makers and potential partners.

Please see conference website for more information at
<http://www.tassausa.org/Annual-Conferences/2012>

1526 18th Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20036, USA
Phone: 1-855-827-7204 * E-mail: conference@tassausa.org * Web: <http://www.tassausa.org>

TASSA 2012 Participant Affiliations

Abbott Bioresearch Center	Federal Reserve Board	MIT	Turkish Armed Forces
Abdullah Gül University	Florida Institute of Technology	MITEQ Inc.	Turkish Coalition of America
Acar Law Firm/ BOHP	Food and Drug Administration	Monell Chemical Senses Center	Turkish Embassy
Acibadem University	Gaziantep University	Montclair State University	Turkish Philanthropy Funds
AJCC Early Childhood Center	GE Global Research Center	MSM Technologies	Turkish Radio and Television
American University	George Washington University	MTA-LIRR	Turkish Women's Initiative
Anadolu University	Georgetown University	MUSC	Turkiye Daily
Ankara University	Georgia Institute of Technology	NASA GSFC / UMD ESSIC	TUSIAD
Aptalis Pharmaceuticals	Girne American University	National Institutes of Health	U.S. Department of State
ATAA	Hacettepe University	Naval Research Lab	UMass Amherst
ATA-DC	Harriet Fulbright College	New York University	UMass Medical School
Atilim University	Harvard Medical School	NIH/NCI	UMBC
Atlantic Wind Connection	Harvard School of Public Health	NIH/NIAAA	Undersecretariat of Defence
B & E ASSOCIATES	Harvard University	NIH-CIT	Industries, Turkey
Bahcesehir University	Hazen and Sawyer	NIST	United Nations
Baruch College, CUNY	Hitit University	North Carolina State University	University at Albany, SUNY
Bates White, LLC	Howard University	Northeastern University	University of Alaska
Berkeley National Laboratory	Hurriyet	Northern Virginia Community College	University of Bridgeport
BidBox LLC	IBM	NSF	University of California, Los Angeles
Bilkent University	IBM Research	Office of Science & Technology	University of California, San Francisco
Binghamton University - SUNY	IFC	Old Dominion University	University of California, Santa Barbara
Bioptron Corporation	Illinois Institute of Technology	Opaxis	University of Central Florida
Boğaziçi University	IMF	Ozyegin University	University of Chicago
Boston College	Impact LLC	Pamukkale University	University of Delaware
Boston University	Impaq International	Pennsylvania State University	University of Erciyes
BOTAS - JHU	Indiana University	PMP	University of Houston
Bridges of Hope Project	InnoEngineer Inc.	Point Park University	University of Illinois, Urbana
Brookings Institution	Istanbul Medeniyet University	PPD	Champaign
Bucknell University	Istanbul Technical University	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	University of Maryland
Cadmus Group	Istanbul University	RINI Technologies, Inc.	University of Massachusetts
Cagal & Associates LLC	IWA, WEF, AWWA	Rochester Institute of Technology	University of Michigan
Carnegie Mellon University	Izmir Institute of Technology	Rutgers University	University of Mississippi
Central Bank of the Republic of Turkey	Izmir University of Economics	Sabah	University of North Carolina
CFTC	Johns Hopkins University	Sabancı University	University of Pittsburgh
CH2MHill	Kadir Has University	Sanford-Burnham	University of Richmond
CHLA-Children hospital-USC	Kaiser Permanente	SAP Research	University of Rochester
Columbia University	Kalara Corp	SDSU & Bogazici University	University of Southern Florida
Cornell University	Kean University	Selçuk University	University of Texas
Cornell/ MSKCC	Koç University	SETA Foundation	University of Virginia
Cornerstone Research	KOSGEB	Seton Hall University	UntraAMS, LLC
Council of Forensic Medicine	Kulen Law Firm P.C.	Siemens Corporate Research	UT Southwestern Medical Center
Council of Higher Education	Law Office of Timur Edib	Stevenson & Associates	Vassar College
CSIS	Lockheed Martin Corporation	Stony Brook University / BOHP	Virginia Commonwealth University
CSU-LB	Loyola College	Strayer University	Virginia Tech
Daon Inc.	Maltepe University	Study the Planet.LLC	Voice of America
DE Dept. of Natural Resources	Marmara Group Foundation	Suffolk University	Walden University
DEIK-DTIK	Marmara University	SUNY Brockport	Walter Reed Army Institute of Research
Deloitte	Marymount University	TACCI	White Tulip Global
Diniz Holding	Massachusetts General Hospital	TED University	Whitehead Institute
Dogan & Associates	McNamara/Salvia Inc.	Teknopark	World Bank
Drexel University	Medical College of Virginia	Temple University	Xerox Corporation
Dumlupinar University	Medical University of SC	The College of William & Mary	Yale University
Duzce University	Mesan Electronics	The Ohio State University	Yasar University
Early Care & Learning Council	METU & Cornell	The World Bank	Yildirim Beyazit University
Ege University	MGH Boston	theAIRnet.org	
Embassy of Turkey	Michael Baker Jr, Inc.	Theiss Research, NIST	
EncoreSolar	Michigan State University	TOBB University	
Everest Production	Middle East Institution	Tooma & Ozisik LLP	
Exponent Inc.	Middle East Technical University	TUBITAK	
Fairbanks Public Schools	Middough Inc.	Tufts University	
Fatih University	Ministry of Science, Industry, and Technology, Turkey	Turkeyfe	
Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation		Turkish American TV	

TASSA 2012 Conference Photos













APPENDIX 2

TASSA 2012 Activities



TASSA launches *The Bridge*, bi-monthly newsletter



TASSA-TÜBİTAK discussed a road map to make Turkey more attractive for scientists
April 9, 2012



TASSA Visited
Ambassador H.E. Namık Tan



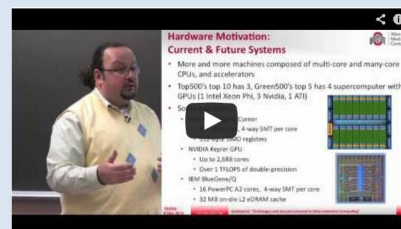
Interview with Science,
Industry and Technology
Minister of Turkey,
May 20, 2012



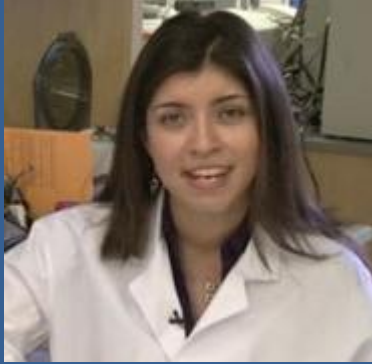
USA-TR Joint Commission
Meeting on S & T Cooperation
Nov, 1-2, 2012



TASSA EconFin Seminar
by Prof. Kalemli-Özcan, Sept. 23, 2012



TASSA Seminar by Professor Ümit V.
Çatalyürek, Ohio State University, Dec, 6th,
2012



Melis Anahtar, Ph.D



Gizem Donmez, Ph.D.



Hasan Ayaz, Ph.D.



Inanc Ortac, Ph.D.

2012 featured Young Scientists



On the request of the Council of Higher Education,
TASSA completed a summary report on the legislation draft to provide feedback.

TURKISH AMERICAN SCIENTISTS AND SCHOLARS ASSOCIATION



2014 Biennial Conference



Please start making your plans to attend the next TASSA Conference.

TASSA VALUES YOUR PARTICIPATION AND
WISHES YOUR PRESENCE AT THE CONFERENCE

Please contact TASSA with any questions

1526 18th Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20036, USA
Phone: 1-855-827-7204 * E-mail: conference@tassausa.org * Web: <http://www.tassausa.org>



Turkish American Scientists & Scholars Association

1526 18th Street, NW Washington, DC 20036 USA, ed@tassausa.org, 1-855-827-7204

About TASSA

Turkish American Scientists and Scholars Association (TASSA) is an independent, non-profit and non-political organization established in June 2004 in Washington, DC.

*TASSA aims to contribute to the social welfare and the industrial development in the U.S.A. and Turkey through the promotion of education and science.

*TASSA promotes friendship and fellowship among Turkish-American professionals engaged in engineering, natural, life and social sciences, and related fields.

*TASSA enhances the professional and social status of Turkish-American professionals engaged in engineering, natural, life and social sciences, and related fields.

*TASSA promotes and cultivates the next generation of Turkish-American scientists and scholars.

*TASSA has a large community and network of nearly 5,000 Turkish scientists and scholars. TASSA members come from

- Engineering and Applied Sciences
- Health and Biomedical Sciences
- Natural Sciences
- Social Sciences, Arts & Humanities



MISSION

TASSA's mission is to promote educational, scientific and technological cooperation between the U.S.A. and Turkey and to facilitate the advancement of science in Turkey and the USA through scientific exchange, educational programs and increased networking.



VISION

TASSA's vision is to build a sustainable science bridge between the U.S.A. and Turkey. This bridge would facilitate the flow of people (scientists and scholars), knowledge, and technology and help link science and technology institutions in the two countries.



TASSA newsletter: The Bridge

The Bridge is a bimonthly newsletter that informs TASSA members about

- TASSA Board and committee activities
- News and job opportunities from Turkey
- Accomplishments of Turkish scientists and scholars.

The Bridge has more than 1,500 active readers.
(<http://www.tassausa.org/News-From-TASSA>)

TASSA Educational Activities

- **TASSA Academy:** A future project aimed at bringing junior faculty from Turkish universities and distinguished faculty from US together in instructive workshops
- **Workshops:** Regional research seminars in various fields bring together TASSA community members and provide great networking opportunities for the attendees.



TASSA Annual Conferences

TASSA Conferences have the objective to establish a forum and create a dynamic platform for many young and experienced American, Turkish, and Turkish-American scientists and scholars to explore and develop new collaborative initiatives. Past conferences were held at:

- 2012 - Smith School of Business, University of Maryland
 - 2008 - Harvard Medical School
 - 2007 - Yale University
 - 2006 - Drexel University
 - 2005 - George Washington University
- (<http://www.tassausa.org/Annual-Conferences/2012>)

For more information about TASSA visit us at <http://www.tassausa.org/>