

## 50+/- Years ago (Vol V, No 2, 1961)

Lloyd Dowler, Dean of Agriculture at Fresno State College is looking forward to the NACTA convention to be held in Fresno, March 18, 19, 20, 1962. Arrangements have been made with the Hotel California to set aside a sufficient number of rooms to take care of delegates, contestants, and special guests.

The executive committee, under the direction of President John T. Carter has come up with an outstanding program that will give every participant a feeling of having gained something worthwhile. There will be livestock, dairy cattle, and land judging contests. Ralston-Purina is providing very beautiful trophies to high teams in the livestock and dairy contests, and the California Association of Soil Conservation Districts will present a trophy for the high team in land judging. These presentations will be made Tuesday night, March 30, at the awards banquet. Mr. R. J. Bell, Chairman of the Fresno Animal Science Department will be in charge of the livestock contest. Mr R. J. Selkirk, Professor of Dairy Husbandry, will chair the dairy cattle contest. Professor W. C. Strong will have charge of the soils contest.

Several faculty members from Departments will report on topics of general interest. Dr. Winston Strong will present a paper on sprinkler irrigation and Mr. O.M. Braun will discuss new developments in the citrus industry. Mr. Jesse Bell will talk on swine nutrition, and Dr. Floyd Hixson will discuss certain aspects of high energy rations in commercial egg production. A panel is being planned on the "project program" with representatives from California junior and state colleges participating. Dr. George Mehren will be the featured speaker on some phase of agricultural economics. Another panel will bring together our tri-partite committee in agriculture where junior college, state universities, and university personnel will be represented.

NACTA has a national agricultural honorary society referred to as Delta Tau Alpha. DTA is a national organization that recognizes scholastic achievement which is tremendously important to every school offering agriculture. All colleges are encouraged to bring along one or two students to attend the DT meetings that run concurrently with our professional meetings.

*"This is an insight into the meeting format in the past and illustrates the change that has occurred over the past 50 years."*

## 30 Years ago (Vol. XXIV, No 1, 1980)

W. Burger and D. C. Brandenburg published an

article entitled: "Student Views About Increasing Non-Farm and Female Enrollment in Agronomy Courses." Fifteen students from each of 49 responding colleges of NASULGC were asked to give their views regarding the potential impact of increased urban and female enrollments on their academic training and future employment. Most non-farm males and females seek farm experience training to help them prepare themselves for jobs in agronomy because more than one-third of them feel disadvantaged compared to farm males and females. Over three-fourths of agronomy enrollees consider the question of farm vs city background an important problem in job placement whereas fewer than half of these students consider the question of sex (male vs female) an important problem in getting a job. Class sizes in the Northeast states especially are restricting students opportunities to receive individual aid e.g..field trips, teacher-student interaction.

*"I find it interesting how issues stay with us and how long we have been dealing with them."*

## 20 Years ago (Vol. XXXIV, No. 1, 1990)

John C. Mertz, NACTA Vice President conducted a membership survey and presented the results. His survey was based upon 85 responses. Some of his responses follow:

*I have been a member of NACTA for:*

Response	N	%
2 years or less	8	9.41
3-5 years	28	32.94
6-10 years	33	38.82
11-15 years	5	5.88
Over 15 years	11	12.94

*I was influenced to join NACTA by (mark all that apply)*

Response	N	%
A friend who was member	48	36.63
A campus recruiter	16	12.21
Attendance to a conference	16	12.21
NACTA Journal	37	28.24
State affiliate of NACTA	5	3.82
Other	4	3.05

*The most important benefit to me being a NACTA member is (rate in order 1-5):*

Item	Score
Journal	399
Teaching Awards	200
National Conferences	197
State Affiliate Conferences	123

## NACTA Yesterday

*“It would be interesting to see if this has changed much over the last 20 years.”*

### **10 Years ago (Vol. 44, No. 1, 2000)**

Amy K. Gortner and Carl R. Zoland published an article entitled “The use of Undergraduate Students.” Data on the use of time were collected via on-week time diary from 136 students enrolled in three agricultural economics courses at Ohio State University. Average hourly use of time per week for these students was: sleeping (55.3), studying (21.3), planned recreation/leisure (19.0), in-class (16.4), job (12.3), travel (10.7), TV (10.3), eating (8.1), personal

hygiene (7.1), student activities (3.6), telephone (1.4), and other (2.6). This time profile generally is similar to that of the American population, except that “being a student” is the primary job. Time spent on academics (in-class and studying) exceeded other uses of time, excluding sleep. This suggests school was a top priority.

*“I would like to know if the hours spent on the telephone have increase significantly in the past 10 years.”*

Jim McKenna  
NACTA Historian



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