

## 50 Years in NACTA: The Presidents



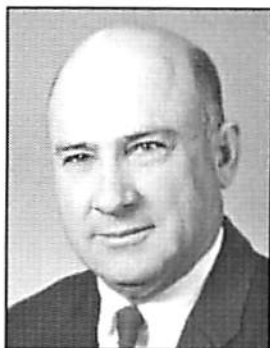
**Ewart B. Knight**, President, 1955–1956. Tennessee Polytechnic Institute. In his President's address at the 1956 NACTA Conference, Dr. Knight said, "It is our responsibility as educators to prepare our students for the kind of life they will enter upon graduation—big, rough, demanding and fast moving."

**M. Hayne Folk, Jr.**, President, 1956–1957. Louisiana Polytechnic Institute. At the 1957 NACTA Conference, President Folk restated the purposes of the association as "(1) to coordinate and improve college teaching in agriculture, (2) to make available college instruction in agriculture to the greatest number of people, and (3) to encourage and promote research in agriculture among members of the association."



**Burton W. DeVeau**, President, 1957–1958. Ohio University. In talking about his relationship with NACTA, he said, "I was a member of the original group that met at Central Missouri State College which resulted in the formation of NACTA."

**Tollie R. Buie**, President, 1958–1959. Southwest Texas State College. Dr. Buie stated: "NACTA has been a stimulus in developing many ambitious teachers into excellent leaders."





**Ralph A. Benton**, President 1959–1960. Southern Illinois University. In his President's message, Benton remarked, "In the year just past, an opportunity was provided whereby the purposes and objectives of NACTA were discussed with the Resident Instruction Committee of the land-grant colleges."

**G. Carl Schowengerdt**, President, 1960–1961. Southeast Missouri State College. His philosophy for NACTA has been set forth in the *NACTA Policies* paper.



**John T. Carter**, President, 1961–1962. University of Houston. As President, Carter stated, "Purposes for which NACTA was brought into existence are goals not in the ordinary sense but are objectives which are always on the horizon and never get reached in their fullest. This is not at all a unique situation but is a reality which should always be borne in mind if the association is to grow in strength and stature."

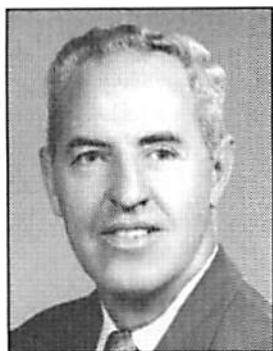
**Roy Joe Stuckey**, President, 1962–1963. Wilmington College. Dr. Stuckey reported as NACTA President that "I strongly believe that the most important objective of the NACTA is the improvement of teaching."





**Thomas J. Stanly**, President, 1963–1964. Nicholls State College. Regarding the role of NACTA, Stanly commented, "Let NACTA serve as a clearinghouse of ideas confirming good teaching and administrative practices...plus new solutions to problems."

**Lloyd Dowler**, President, 1964–1965. Fresno State College. As President-Elect, Dowler said, "Since I first met NACTA in 1961, I have been markedly impressed by the seriousness with which the persons who attend these meetings go about getting their work accomplished."



**Hal B. Barker**, President, 1965–1966. Louisiana Polytechnic Institute. In his President's address, he stated, "We must always look to the future, using the past only as a foundation."

**J. Keith Justice**, President, 1966–1967. Abilene Christian College. Dr. Justice wrote from retirement in Utah, "Keep up the good work so that the Lord may never need to say again as he did through the prophet Jeremiah, 'The whole land will waste because there is no one who cares.'"



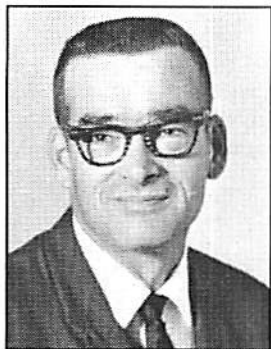


**Dan O. Robinson**, President, 1967–1968. Arizona State University. At a symposium hosted by his institution in 1967, Robinson said, "It is the fond hope and dream of NACTA members that the time is near at hand when all agricultural schools in America...can join together with mutual respect and cooperation for the purpose of making higher education programs available according to current needs rather than by tradition of origin of institution."

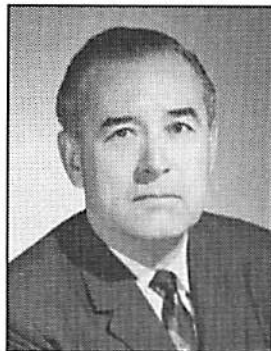
**Franklin E. Eldridge**, President, 1968–1969. University of Nebraska. He replied to Lindahl's request for a statement, "NACTA is the only organization in the USA and Canada whose sole purpose is to encourage and promote excellence in the teaching of agriculture at the post-secondary level...successful if it can keep its focus on the goal."



**Murray A. Brown**, President, 1969–1970. Sam Houston State University. Brown states, "NACTA enjoys a proud history of consistently having provided major leadership in enhancing articulation dialogue between land-grant and non-land-grant postsecondary U.S. and Canadian institutions with programs in agriculture, while always maintaining focus on its main goal of improving the college teaching of agriculture."



**Darrell S. Metcalf**, President, 1970–1971. University of Arizona. Metcalf assessed his experience in the organization: "NACTA meant much to me. It was a pleasure to serve."





**J. Wayland Bennett**, President, 1971–1972. Texas Tech University. In his President's address, he remarked, "There is one overriding conclusion that I have reached at the end of my year of service—that the membership of NACTA is composed of innovative, ingenious, and dedicated professional educators."

**John Beeks**, President, 1972–1973. Northwest Missouri State University. He stated, "You of NACTA know your responsibility to your students and your institution. Please remember your responsibility to yourself: stop to smell the roses."



**Jerome K. Pasto**, President, 1973–1974. Penn State University. He replied to Lindahl, "Surely there wasn't a more dedicated group that worked so hard to advance instruction in agriculture and related sciences and which also provided opportunities for professional growth."

**Robert A. Alexander**, President, 1974–1975. Middle Tennessee State University. In his President's address, Alexander stated, "It is certainly encouraging to see the work that is being done as far as state affiliates are concerned, and it will be my privilege during this conference to appoint an ad hoc committee to study feasibility of relating state affiliates to the national association."





**William R. Thomas**, President, 1975–1976. Colorado State University. He stated, "The rewards of teaching continue long after the paychecks cease."

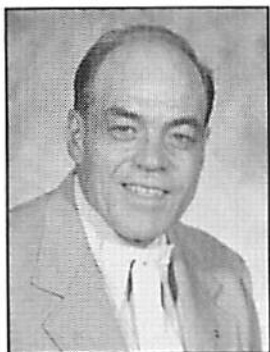
**Edward C. Frederick**, President, 1976–1977. University of Minnesota–Wasecca. His reply to Lindahl was "Nothing is more important than EDUCATION and AGRICULTURE. Keep NACTA strong and on its mission of improving teaching in agriculture, and the world will be a better place because of you."



**Frank R. Carpenter**, President, 1977–1978. Kansas State University. His statement was "Be friendly. Don't take yourself too seriously. You didn't put yourself here. There are many things and circumstances that are not within your control. Have some fun. Each day comes only once. Congratulations on our support to NACTA."

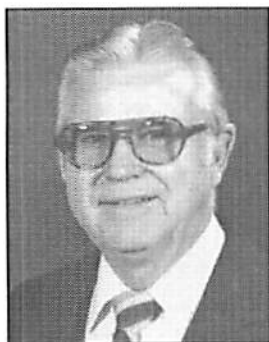
**O.J. Burger**, President, 1978–1979. California State University–Fresno. Burger titled his President's address, "As We Teach Today—So Will Tomorrow Be."





**Robert R. Shrode**, President, 1979–1980. University of Tennessee. He stated in his President's address, "I strongly believe that the trend toward increased support, both moral and otherwise, of college teaching of agriculture can be accelerated by NACTA as we grow in strength and influence."

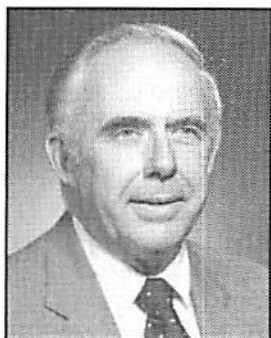
**C.E. Stufflebeam**, President, 1980–1981. Southwest Missouri State University. He said, "As we move into the 21st century, let us continue to make NACTA the mechanism and advocate for the improvement of teaching of agriculture in institutions of higher education, using the most up-to-date methods and technology, and keeping in mind that we are working for our students."



**Russell L. Miller**, president, 1981–1982. Louisiana State University. Russell replied to Lindahl: "Intensify your membership drive and enroll as many as possible. NACTA has so much to offer the teaching profession in agriculture. The greater number enrolled, the greater the benefit to the total profession."

**Lee W. Doyen**, President, 1982–1983. Cloud County Community College. He said, "I would encourage NACTA to get more young faculty to join the organization. It will provide a great opportunity for agriculture faculty to exchange ideas and promote their profession."





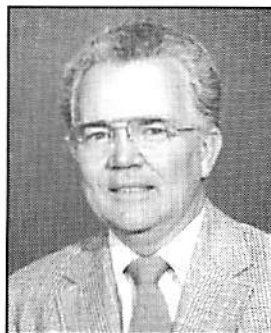
**H. Bradford Craig**, President, 1983–1984. North Carolina State University. He replied when asked, "I encourage each member to concentrate on what NACTA can do for you and what you can for NACTA."

**Robert C. McGuire**, President, 1984–1985. SUNY College of Agriculture and Technology–Cobleskill. McGuire stated, "NACTA has given me an opportunity to initiate many great friendships with educators throughout the U.S. and Canada. The student has changed and so must the faculty if we want to meet the needs of agriculture and society."

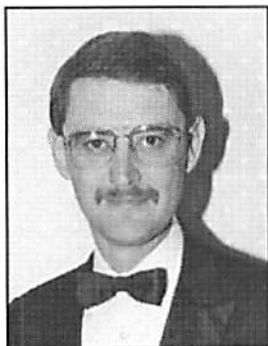


**A.W. "Tom" Burger**, President, 1985–1986. University of Illinois. Burger said, "Take pride in NACTA's four decades of leadership with full recognition that many formidable challenges remain and that NACTA will face these challenges with full confidence."

**Robert C. Kirst**, President, 1986–1987. University of Arkansas–Monticello. Kirst admonished: "Reach broadly across your department to touch young professionals and encourage and support them in every way, since they are the future of agriculture. Above all, inspire them by your example and leadership to become ACTIVE participants in NACTA."

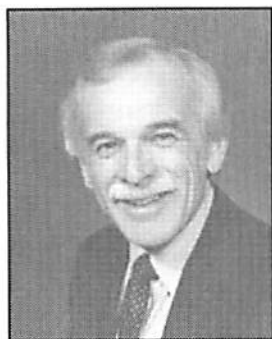






**Lyndon N. Irwin**, President, 1987–1988. Southwest Missouri State University. Irwin said, "As I write...from a computer in my home and send via email to a computer in Wisconsin, I'm sure that the founders of NACTA never imagined that we would be communicating electronically... keeping up with technology is one of the greatest challenges facing university faculty. My wish is that all NACTA members would accept this challenge and make the commitment necessary so that they might be looked upon as leaders in the use of instruction technology in the 21st century."

**Dale W. Weber**, President, 1988–1989. Oregon State University. Weber replied to Lindahl: "NACTA is unique in that professionals from many disciplines can come together and share common bond; that is the love for and the desire to promote good teaching."



**G.M. "Mike" Jenkinson**, President, 1989–1990. University of Guelph. Jenkinson stated, "Each of us has a choice to make about our response to change; we can resist it, we can watch it happen, or we can be part of its development. The last requires more effort and provides more satisfaction."

**John C. Mertz**, President, 1990–1991. Delaware Valley College. Mertz said, "We in the teaching profession share what is at once a unique opportunity and an awesome responsibility. The opportunity lies in the chance to mold minds and habits of tomorrow's leaders. The responsibility is in doing that as effectively as humanly possible, building a trust that will last our students for their entire lives. I can think of no greater or more worthy challenge."





**Gerry L. Posler**, President, 1991-1992.  
Kansas State University. Gerry said, "I would share a quote from Thomas Jefferson that I have shared with students, 'The harder you work, the luckier you get.'"

**Thomas J. Lindahl**, President, 1992-1993.  
University of Wisconsin-Platteville. Lindahl stated, "Excellence in teaching is once again being recognized as the most important role for a faculty member. NACTA needs to lead in this trend within our college and universities across the U.S. and Canada."



**Douglas A. Pahls**, President, 1993-1994.  
University of Idaho. Douglas said, "'We don't get out of life what we want, but what we expect' is, and always will be, true. We must continue to expect much from NACTA in the improvement of college teaching in agriculture."

**Harley W. Foutch**, President, 1994-1995.  
Middle Tennessee State University. Foutch stated in his incoming President's address: "As members of NACTA, we have many challenges to meet. We are working in two areas: agriculture and higher education—both of which the world looks to use for continued leadership and direction."





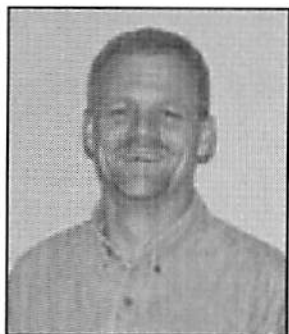
**Larry H. Erpelding**, President, 1995–1996. Kansas State University. Erpelding issued this challenge at the 1996 Awards Banquet: "The challenge for tonight's awardees, past honorees, and all NACTA members is to become aggressive ambassadors for high-quality, effective teaching on our respective campuses. The window of opportunity to make a notable difference in improving the level of undergraduate instruction and rewarding excellence in teaching has never been better than now."

**Rick O. Parker**, President, 1996–1997. College of Southern Idaho. Parker states, "To improve and to grow, NACTA requires continual individual effort. Every member of NACTA should (1) recruit another NACTA member; (2) submit a manuscript to the *NACTA Journal*; (3) attend the annual meeting and become involved in a committee; and (4) submit a teacher or graduate student for an award."



**Ed Yoder**, President, 1997–1998. The Pennsylvania State University. Yoder says, "NACTA continues to be an important voice for the resident education mission of our colleges and universities. Especially, today's issues and problems require that students be prepared to examine those issues from multidisciplinary perspectives."

**Bryce H. Lane**, President, 1998–1999. North Carolina State University. Lane states, "The longer I teach, the more I realize that it is not about me, it is about them, the students. My involvement in NACTA has helped to mold my own philosophies about teaching and learning and made me a better teacher. The relationships I've forged with other NACTA members over the years have created friendships for life."





**R. Bruce Johnson**, President, 1999–2000. Southwest Missouri State University. Johnson states, "Each year as I prepare students for an in-depth study of some of the nation's leading agricultural businesses, I remind them of the importance of self motivation—that education is possible only when the student wishes to learn and develop into a productive citizen."

**Jean A. Gleichsner**, President, 2000–2001. Fort Hays State University, Kansas. Gleichsner states, "NACTA is an unique organization that combines the love of teaching and the love of agriculture. No other organization can make that same claim."



**Danny E. Terry**, President, 2001–2002. Western Illinois University. Terry stated, "It is often said that a teacher lives forever—you never know where his or her influence will end.' Be a builder of bridges for agricultural students and teachers choosing to follow in our paths, so their travels might be easier and more productive. What better than NACTA to be the foundation for the bridges we build?"

**Ron J. Hanson**, President, 2002–2003. University of Nebraska–Lincoln. Hanson writes, "NACTA provides a great opportunity to be associated with a group of talented faculty across a wide range of agriculture-related disciplines who share both a committed dedication and enthusiasm for teaching excellence and a passion for working with college students. NACTA members can be proud of their efforts to enhance student learning and creating a lasting impact on a student's program of study."



**Jim McKenna**, President, 2003-2004. Virginia Polytechnic Institute



and State University. McKenna says, "NACTA is as much a family as it is a professional organization for me. Since becoming a NACTA Fellow, I have not missed an annual meeting. The lifelong friends I've been fortunate to meet through NACTA have enhanced my life and improved my classroom performance. Each time we meet, it's a teaching recharge. The interdisciplinary nature of NACTA is unique, as is the variety of both large and small institutions. We all learn from and share with each other."

**Linda C. Martin**, President, 2004-2005. Oklahoma State University. Linda encouraged all administrators to support NACTA through memberships for faculty members and attendance at the annual conference.



**Keith Karnock**, President, 2005-2006. University of Georgia. Karnock stated, "NACTA is unique, probably more unique than any other professional agricultural association/society in the country."



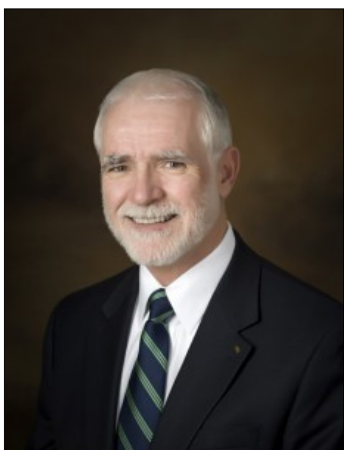
**Allen Zimmerman**, President, 2006-2007. Allen was a Professor in the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences at The Ohio State University. As President of NACTA he focused on conducting the business of NACTA according to its constitution and by-laws. He also helped refine and correct the constitution and by-laws.

**Wayne L. Banwart**, President, 2007-2008. University of Illinois. In his president remarks Wayne said: "I commend you for making a difference in people's lives and our future. I challenge you to showcase that difference, to expand that difference, and to share that difference through your involvement in NACTA."



**Kevin J. Donnelly**, President, 2008-2009. Kansas State University. Donnelly stated, "The most unique and exciting feature of NACTA connections is the diversity of people and ideas it involves. NACTA was far ahead of its time in promoting interdisciplinary connections, and that remains even more critical today." And "I do believe that we must do more to promote the benefits of NACTA."

**Mike Mullen**, President, 2009-2012. University of Kentucky, Mullen stated, "NACTA is the one venue that brings together likeminded professionals to discuss that which has always been of prime importance for me – the teaching and learning that takes place in our colleges and universities."



**R. Kirby Barrick**, President, 2010-2011. University of Florida. Barrick says, "More faculty at all of our institutions could benefit from membership and participation in NACTA. I encourage you to work with administrators in your departments and colleges to have them provide NACTA memberships for new faculty."

**Jeannette A. Moore**, President, 2011-2012. North Carolina State University. Moore stated, "I encourage Graduate Student members of NACTA to renew their memberships and to become involved in one or more NACTA committees. Many of the current faculty members of NACTA began with a graduate student membership. Please encourage other graduate students who have an interest in teaching to join NACTA and to attend the conference."





**Rick Rudd**, President, 2012-2013. Virginia Tech University. Because of a professional move, Rick was involved in hosting the NACTA Conference at the University of Florida (2004) and then Virginia Tech (2013).

**Jeffory Hattey**, President, 2013-2014. Ohio State University. Hattey stated, "NACTA is about changing lives. As educators, we are in the business of changing lives one person, one relationship at a time. Each of us brings a different discipline to the table but what cuts across our disciplinary boundaries is a desire to be a catalyst which changes a student from being a passive observer to being an active participant in their education."



**Bonnie Walters**, President, 2014-2015. University of Wisconsin-River Falls. Bonnie had these encouraging words, "As we begin a new academic year, I hope everyone will utilize the NACTA Journal, the teaching tips, and the professional connections that you have created within NACTA to improve your teaching, and to inspire and challenge your students."



**Tracy Hoover**, President, 2015-2016.

Penn State University. In her presidential message, Tracy stated that The opportunity to advance your disciplinary expertise, gain new instructional strategies and techniques, meet colleagues committed to instructional excellence, and secure recognition for excellence in instruction is an unrivaled benefit from a professional organization. “I would encourage you to share the benefits and opportunities of NACTA membership with colleagues and administrators. There are also many leadership opportunities to become more engaged with NACTA through committee membership, serving on the editorial board, as a campus ambassador or officer. Just reach out to one of the board members to secure more information.”

