

Report On the 51st Annual NACTA Conference OSI-ATI, Wooster, Ohio

- *Conference Date:* June 15-17, 2005
- *Conference Location:* OSU, Wooster, Ohio
- *Conference Planning Committee:* Mark Headings (committee chair), Susie Whittington (program chair) plus 14 other committee members and two ex officio.
- *NACTA Regional Director:* Mike Mullen
- *Theme:* Experiential and Student-Centered Learning
- *Number of Registrants:* 183, plus 21 guests [15 adults, 6 children]
(See attached list of participants)
- OSU Registrants and Nonmembers (including students): See attachments
- *Registrants for one day only:* 10
- *Meeting Facilities:* Shisler Conference Center, on the OARDC campus at Wooster, Ohio
- *Lodging:* Available at the OSU Applewood Village and The Hilton Garden Inn Wooster plus four other Motels and two alternate accommodation options
- *Pre-Conference Information:* Brochures and packets of materials were distributed at the 50th annual NACTA conference in Gainesville, Florida and a DVD preview was shown of the 51st annual conference scheduled to be held in Wooster. Additional mailings of the brochure were made by the NACTA Secretary during the year preceding the conference. A NACTA Conference web page was developed and maintained by our Web Developer, David Lohnes at the OARDC. Several reminders of the conference were forwarded to the membership by the NACTA Secretary throughout the year preceding the conference. Likewise, several letters were sent to the OSU audience reminding them of the conference. Dr.

Jamie Cano developed the registration materials that were included in the web page and several others, especially our Division Secretary, Pat Munn, assisted greatly with the registration process. A variety of information pieces from the Wooster Chamber of Commerce and elsewhere were included in the handbags that were given to participants upon their arrival at the conference. The 2005 NACTA Conference web site is <http://www.shislercenter.ohio-state.edu/nacta/>

- A display room was available in the Shisler Conference Center for organizations wishing to display relevant promotional materials. Several such displays were presented there.
- *Transportation:* OSU vehicles from OARDC and ATI were used in transporting participants from and to the airport in Cleveland and to and from lodging facilities. This responsibility was coordinated by Royce Thornton. Several buses were also provided by the Muskingum Coach Company for transporting participants on Industry Tours and to the “Trumpet in the Land” drama event.
- A program booklet and abstract book were prepared for participants and given when checking in at the conference registration desk upon arrival.
- A handbag was provided each registrant when checking in at the conference registration desk. These bags were paid for by the Ohio Farm Bureau Federation and the Wayne County Farm Bureau.
- *Keynote Address:* Presented was Dr. Luz Mangurian, Towson University, entitled, “Where Neurosciences and Pedagogy Intersect in Support of Student Learning”
- *Blue Ribbon Presentation:* Presented by Dr. Gary Moore, North Carolina State University, entitled, “Using Humor in the Classroom”
- *Dean’s Series Presentations:* Given by Dr. L. H. Newcomb, Senior Associate Dean, The Ohio State University, entitled, “Making Learning More Student Centered”; Dr. Barbara Malpiedi Kirby, Assistant Dean, North Carolina State University, entitled, “Involving Undergraduates in our Research Programs”; Dr. Kirby Barrick, Associate Dean, University of Illinois, entitled, “Advancing Leadership Development For All Students”.

- *Oral and Poster Sessions:* There were 40 Oral presentations and 32 Poster presentations. Dr. Shah Rahnema coordinated this activity and developed the guidelines and procedures for submitting abstracts. This information was posted on the Conference web site. An Abstract Book was also prepared for use by participants during the conference.
- *NACTA Committee Meetings:* Times were also allocated for NACTA Committees to meet and also for NACTA business meetings.
- *Awards Banquet:* The Awards Banquet was preceded by a Reception. Floral arrangements were provided by ATI faculty Gary Anderson and Terry Lanker. A musical trio “Fare Thee Well” provided background dinner music. An Awards Banquet manual prepared by Dr. Rick Parker, et al was printed at OARDC and a copy was placed at each table setting.
- *Picnic:* A barbeque picnic was served at the ATI Gardens on the evening of June 16. Background music was provided by an FFA high school student by the name of Jeremy Hupman, who subsequently enrolled as a student at ATI, Autumn Quarter 2005.
- An Amish farmer from Holmes County by the name of David Kline spoke on “Amish Culture and Agriculture” at the luncheon on June 17.
- Four industry tours were scheduled; however, “The Crop Commodity Tour” was cancelled due to the small number who signed up for that one. There was a large group that signed up for the “Amish Cultural Livelihood Tour” and consequently, two buses were used for transporting that tour group. The other two tour options were the “Horticulture Tour” and the “Livestock Tour”. The industry tours were arranged by Jane Houin and Kim Sayers.
- *Companion Tours:* Tour options for guests were “The Holmes County Tour” and the “Wayne County Tour.” These were arranged by Shirley Badger.
- *Drama:* A Drama option, “Trumpet in the Land” was available the evening of June 15. A bus was provided to transport a number of participants to the event. This was arranged by Jane Houin.

- *Industry Support:* Support for the conference was provided by way of cash and in-kind donations from nine individual and industry sponsors.
- *Conference Financial Report:* As of this date the attached financial statement is not complete. The deficit will likely greatly exceed the amount shown on this report because the Shisler Conference Center submitted a final bill after the conference which greatly exceeded the estimated amount provided before the conference. The earlier estimated figure is shown in the attached financial statement. Therefore, this matter is still not settled. In addition, the planning committee was earlier informed that there would be no OSU overhead charged for processing the finances through an OSU Conference account; however, it now appears there will be such a charge. In any event, these deficits related issues are an internal OSU matter and have been submitted to the ATI Director to handle or negotiate.
- A summary of conference evaluation information is still forthcoming

Respectfully submitted,
Mark Headings