

NACTA June 2010 Reports

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President’s Report - Mike Mullen

Following is a summary of my activities as President, June 20, 2009 – June 22, 2010. Note that my report from the Fall Business Meeting is appended. Presided over NACTA Fall Business Meeting on October 30, 2009 in Pittsburgh, PA. Prior to that meeting, Jeff Hattey, Bonnie Walters, and I traveled to Penn

State to meet with Marcos Fernandez and Tracy Hoover and tour the conference facilities. The facilities are impressive and the meeting planning was well underway.

Appointed an *ad hoc* committee to review and offer recommendations regarding the NACTA Teaching Awards Program on January 20, 2010. Committee members include Prasanta Kalita, Jeff Hattey, Susie Whittington, Bonnie Walters, and Kirby Barrick, who served as chair. A summary of discussions regarding teaching awards program issues was provided from our June 20, 2009 Executive Committee meeting. Report submitted by Kirby Barrick on June 10, 2010 and will be discussed at June 22, 2010 Executive Committee meeting.

Attended the annual Delta Tau Alpha meeting at Sam Houston State University March 26th, 2010. Delivered greetings from NACTA and presented a speech giving history of NACTA and the origins of DTA from NACTA. Charged the students with taking their role as leaders seriously as we continue to promote agriculture and its vital role in feeding our world.

Continued the Council for Agricultural Science and Technology discussion via email with the Executive Committee after receiving our annual dues notice from CAST. At the fall meeting we agreed not to pay this until we made a final decision at these summer meetings. We need to finalize those discussions at Penn State and make progress towards changing the constitution. Constitutional changes were not prepared in time for the Penn State Business meeting. I propose that we consider the language in the Text of my email message to CAST is below.

March 2, 2010

Dear Melissa (Sly),

The Executive Committee of NACTA has discussed the issue of CAST membership a great deal in the past few weeks. We have decided not to renew our membership. Our rationale is that our organization is made up of faculty and administrators from ALL disciplines in agriculture, human sciences and natural resources. Nearly all of our disciplinary societies are members of CAST and are represented through those societies. We felt that given our purpose, and the representation across all of our societies, coupled with the fiscal realities of being a small organization with limited resources, that it is best to withdraw from membership at this time.

Thank you for your patience on this,

Mike Mullen, President of NACTA

Initiated, on March 3, with Rick Parker, a set of blind email addresses that forward to the appropriate person at the @nactateachers.org domain. These are:

president@nactateachers.org
 president.elect@nactateachers.org
 past.president@nactateachers.org
 historian@nactateachers.org
 membership.director@nactateachers.org
 foundation.director@nactateachers.org
 canadian.director@nactateachers.org
 central.director@nactateachers.org
 eastern.director@nactateachers.org
 southern.director@nactateachers.org
 western.director@nactateachers.org

These email addresses are operational now. The Committee should decide how to use these. On public websites, this would give a layer of privacy to each officer, potentially reducing spam sent to us as a result of "harvesting bots." I am on other public boards for which this is a routine way to prevent folks from having easy access to our email addresses.

I would suggest a contacts table on the web site as follows:

President	Dr. Mike Mullen Address	president@nactateachers.org
Canadian Regional Director	Dr. Kent Mullinix Address	canadian.director@nactateachers.org

The discussions on how to get more involvement from AASCARR schools in NACTA, has led to an AASCARR discussion panel at Penn State Meetings on Thursday, June 24 from 2:45 to 3:45. Kevin Bacon, AASCARR liaison, has done a great job of bringing this together with the PSU conference team. I, along with others from the Executive Committee, will meet with AASCARR members to focus on the following issues:

What can NACTA do to facilitate increased participation from AASCARR schools and,

What is the value of involvement with NACTA in the P&T process for faculty at AASCARR schools?

Wrote a thank you letter to Dr. John Kennelly, Dean of the Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences at the University of Alberta for their official notification that they will host the 2011 Annual Meeting. Letter from Dr. Kennelly and my response are posted below.



UNIVERSITY OF
ALBERTA

Faculty of Agricultural, Life & Environmental Sciences

2-16 Agriculture-Faculty Centre
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T6G 2P5

www.ualberta.ca

Tel: 780-492-4911
Fax: 780-492-8524

April 28, 2010

Dr. Mike Mullen
University of Kentucky
College of Agriculture
N6 Ag Science Bldg North
Lexington, KY 40546

CC: Marilyn Parker
151 West 100 South
Rupert, ID 83350

Dear Dr. Mullen:

The Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences would like to invite the membership of the North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture to hold their Annual NACTA Conference at the University of Alberta in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada from June 14th to 17th, 2011.

The Faculty would be delighted to host the delegates and their families to the U of A's north campus for this conference. The campus offers excellent conference facilities, and the area has an ample array of accommodations, either right on campus or within walking distance. A conference planning committee will be formed, which will work at planning tours relevant to your membership's interest and highlighting unique attributes of the surrounding area.

To get in touch with the planning committee, please contact Dana Penrice at dana.penrice@ualberta.ca or Frank Robinson at frank.robinson@ualberta.ca

Sincerely,

John J. Kennelly, PhD,
Dean
Faculty of Agricultural, Life & Environmental Sciences



Dr. Mike Mullen
NACTA President
University of Kentucky
Office of Undergraduate Education
Lexington, KY 40506-0054
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mike.mullen@uky.edu

June 11, 2010

Dr. John Kennelly
Dean
Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences
University of Alberta
2-14C Agriculture Forestry Ctr.
Edmonton, AB
Canada T6G 2P5

Dear Dr. Kennelly,

I want to thank you and the Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences for your generous offer to host the 2011 Annual Conference of the North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture.

One of the strengths of NACTA is its ability to bring educators from all over North America together to learn from each other how to better our scholarship of teaching and learning, regardless of discipline. I have been attending NACTA conferences since 1998, and consider these meetings to be the most important I attend each year, simply because I believe that we must strive to provide the best educational opportunities to our students, and the attendees at these conferences are of the same spirit. I always leave with great ideas and a renewed commitment to my education mission.

I look forward to meeting you and your faculty this coming year as we make plans for another outstanding conference at the University of Alberta!

Yours in education,

Michael D. Mullen, PhD
NACTA President, 2009-2010

c: Marilyn Parker, NACTA Secretary
Dr. Kirby Barrick, President-elect
Dr. Frank Robinson, University of Alberta
Dr. Martin Zaidhe, Canadian Region Director-elect, University of Alberta

"Advancing the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning" in Agricultural, Environmental, Natural, and Life sciences

NACTA Fall Business Meeting
October 30, 2009

Following is a summary of activities as President, effective June 20, 2009.

Presided over the second business meeting at Oklahoma State on June 20, 2009.

Appointed Jean Bertrand, University of Georgia, as Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU) liaison.

Stephen Damron of Oklahoma State has agreed to act as CAST Liaison, but we need to discuss membership at fall meeting before committing.

Marilyn Parker prepared congratulatory letters signed by the President that were sent to all NACTA award winners announced at the annual conference in Stillwater, OK.

Polled Executive Committee on moving forward on George Chronis web site development. EC was overwhelmingly positive on moving forward. Gave the go ahead to move forward with development. Web site will be previewed at Fall business meeting. Will appoint an *ad hoc* committee to monitor continued development based on discussions at fall meeting.

The President's message was written and edited for the NACTA web site and Journal.

Continued discussions of AASCARR participation with Kevin Bacon. Wrote letter to AASCARR inviting more participation, perhaps as a panel discussion or other activity at Penn State at the 2010 Annual Meeting (letter attached). This will be further discussed at Fall meeting.



Dr. Mike Mullen
NACTA President
University of Kentucky
Office of Undergraduate Education
Lexington, KY 40546-0054
859.257.3027
mike.mullen@uky.edu

October 2, 2009

Dr. Kevin Bacon
AASCARR Representative to NACTA
Western Illinois University
315 Knoblauch Hall
Macomb, IL 61455-1390

Dear Kevin,

As we have discussed, NACTA is very much interested in keeping AASCARR agriculture faculty involved in our society. Part of the NACTA mission is to provide opportunities to improve teaching and learning in all programs. To that end, the idea of hosting a panel discussion or some other kind of activity with AASCARR administrators at the Annual Meeting at Penn State is appealing. I encourage AASCARR administrators to look for ways to enhance membership and participation in NACTA, and to consider ways to use NACTA in the professional development and recognition of your faculty.

As you know, many of the 1862 Landgrant Universities are discovering the value of NACTA as a place for professional development of their teaching faculty. NACTA awards programs are also of great interest to faculty from these programs as evidence of success and recognition for their teaching activities. I believe it is in the best interests of NACTA to have all agriculture and related science programs at the table, and I also believe that NACTA can be of great benefit to the faculty at AASCARR institutions.

If I can be of further assistance in this matter, please do let me know.

Sincerely,

Mike Mullen
NACTA President

Past President – Kevin Donnelly

Nominating Committee & Distinguished Educator Committee -

Nominating Committee Chair – Presented officer nominees at the fall executive meeting and received approval for the following slate: President Elect – Jeannette Moore (North Carolina State University) and Ann Marie VanDerZanden (Iowa State University); Central Region Director Elect – Kevin Bacon (Western Illinois University) and Dana Minihan (Kansas State University.); Canadian Region Director Elect – Martin Zuidhof (University of Alberta). The election was successfully conducted using the new online system from the new NACTA web site. Those elected were Moore, Bacon and Zuidhof.

Distinguished Educator Committee Chair – Presented one nominee for the award at the fall executive meeting and received approval. Since the meeting was held before the deadline for nominations, a second nomination was subsequently received by the deadline, and an electronic review and vote of the executive committee was conducted. Following the votes, Jean Gleichsner (Fort Hays State University) and James Wangberg (University of Wyoming) were approved by the executive committee to receive the award at the June 2010 Conference.

Secretary's Report - Marilyn Parker

Membership records for NACTA are maintained in a Microsoft Excel file. This provides the least expensive and the most flexible recordkeeping system. The records include addresses, email addresses, year paid, membership type, and region. Records can be sorted and presented in a variety of ways and most NACTA members can be sent an email. Members continue to receive a unique membership number.

Email is used extensively to maintain contact with members, to answer inquiries and to renew memberships. This use of email results in a substantial savings in postage. A NACTA E-Newsletter is sent out almost monthly to update members. This also helps keep email addresses current.

Individuals and institutions can renew their membership with a check or with a credit card. Credit card payments can be mailed or faxed. Members continue to take advantage of the 3-year payment option.

Membership notifications go out through email to individuals in the fall. If dues are not paid by the end of February of the next year, their name is taken off the mailing list. Members receive at least two personal reminders concerning their dues payment. Reminders also go out through the NACTA E-Newsletters and to the regional directors. If a member does not have email, a reminder letter is mailed.

NACTA memberships paid (or ongoing) in 2009-2010 consisted of the following:

Category	Number
Institutional Active	432
Active	34
Life	129
Graduate Students	39
Emeritus	10
Complimentary	9
Institutions	112
Library	65
Total	830

A number of universities/colleges promote NACTA memberships and pay for a one year membership for several individuals. Some institutions pay for 3-year memberships to NACTA. In addition, some schools' departments pay for their NACTA memberships yearly. Those that have participated this past year are: Pennsylvania State University; Virginia Tech, Purdue University; University of Florida; University of Nebraska; University of Illinois; Delaware Valley College, Doylestown, PA; Crowder College, Neosho, MO; Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, TX, Abilene Christian University, TX, and Tennessee Tech University, Cookeville, TN. For the record, if you know of some that have been missed, please inform the Secretary.

Total new members for 2009-2010 – 132 Institutional Active (45 from the 2009 Oklahoma State NACTA/SERD Conference) and 21 Active (17 from the 2009 conference). There were 21 new graduate students and three new Life memberships. Approximately 180 did not renew for 2010 - many of them long time members who had paid for the one or 3-year memberships.

We maintain a database of past members' email addresses; periodically they receive an e-newsletter to see if their intent may have changed to renew their memberships. The NACTA Secretary appreciates the involvement of the Membership director and the Regional directors to encourage Institutional memberships and reminders for general memberships.

We have eight Canadian members; seven Canadian Institutions and four Canadian libraries. We have two foreign members, and two foreign libraries.

Every new member receives a letter welcoming them into NACTA and their name is passed to the Regional Director and the Membership Director. Regional directors have been supplied with lists of members in their regions twice a year and when they request. Every renewing member receives an email thanking them for their renewal and encouraging them to become active in the organization.

All member institutions received notification by email of their ability to present the Teaching Award of Merit Certificates and other advantages of Institutional membership. This year 33 Teaching Awards of Merit and 9 Graduate Student Awards of Merit were presented. This number is down again from last year. **How can we make them more aware of this award?** This information is available on the NACTA website. There were several current NACTA members that received this award.

Several institutions were very late or are still in the process of renewing or did not renew for 2010 - Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, TN (did not renew), Auburn University (pending), Western Illinois University, Macomb, IL (pending), Wilmington College, Wilmington OH, Tennessee Tech University, Cookeville, TN (pending), Morrisville State College, Morrisville, NY (pending), and Texas A&M University (dean change-pending). These schools have been members of NACTA for several years. There were two new Institutions - Lakeland College, Vermilion, Alberta, Canada and Wright State University-Lake Campus, Celina, Ohio. There have been several dean changes which makes obtaining institutional memberships challenging. If you are aware of these changes, please let the secretary know so the billing will go to the correct person. The Regional Directors were very helpful in obtaining some of these institutional membership renewals.

About 100 NACTA members participated in the voting for officers – down from last year.

Action Item: Encouraging new memberships and retaining memberships is an ongoing theme.

Treasurer's Report— Marilyn Parker

3:00 PM
06/21/10
Accrual Basis

North American Colleges & Teachers of Agriculture Profit & Loss June 2009 through May 2010

	<u>Jun '09 - May 10</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Book Sales (Conf)	0.00
Member Contributions	-2,310.00
Membership Dues	64,325.00
Misc Income	550.00
Position Announcement	100.00
Royalties Income	178.64
Transfer from Foundation	5,600.00
Total Income	<u>68,443.64</u>
Expense	
Awards	5,600.00
Conference Expense	4,521.47
Credit Card Fee	1,269.15
Equipment	74.19
Fall Exec Mtg	1,142.46
Honorariums	20,000.00
Insurance	150.00
Journal-Misc Expense	3,472.89
Journal Printing	12,000.00
Membership Refunds	0.00
Misc Expense	388.18
Postage	2,938.81
Professional Fees	1,491.50
Promotional	1,257.00
Secretarial Help	111.75
Supplies	1,609.47
Travel	2,023.06
Web Site Expense	17,858.00
Total Expense	<u>75,907.93</u>
Net Ordinary Income	<u>-7,464.29</u>
Net Income	<u><u>-7,464.29</u></u>

Above is a profit and loss statement created by QuickBooks. The accounting firm of Mayes & Waters, in Rupert, Idaho, provided help in verifying the records. A detailed Profit & Loss statement is available for any NACTA member.

The membership dues are the major factor in keeping NACTA financially viable. In order to totally support the annual teaching awards, the current membership would need to double. The increase in dues in June 2007 put NACTA in the black in 2008-2009. One-time costs associated with the new NACTA website and the first annual hardcopy of the Journal put NACTA in the red for the 2009-2010

year. These costs will be less next year keeping NACTA in the black provided current memberships levels are maintained or preferably increased.

The ending bank statement for May 2010 is \$34,793.04.

Membership Director's Report - Ron Hanson

At the 2009 NACTA Annual Business Meeting, a survey form requesting the names of potential new NACTA members from each respective campus was distributed. This idea proved successful with exactly 100 names being submitted. A personal letter inviting each nominated person to join NACTA along with a copy of the new NACTA brochure was sent to each person. This resulted in a few additional new memberships. A request for names of potential new members will be repeated at the 2010 NACTA Annual Business Meeting.

Marilyn Parker shared with me the names of the NACTA members (147 names total) who did not renew their membership dues for 2009. I sent a personal Email letter to each person and encouraged them to renew their NACTA membership. I plan to repeat this process for those NACTA members who did not renew their membership for 2010.

Based on the suggestion by Dana Minihan and the leadership of Rick Parker, the NACTA website has been updated with the new NACTA tagline and webpage design. Several new features/options have been added to the NACTA website (i.e. on-line voting, archives of past reports, creating databases, etc.).

If the NACTA membership approves the Executive Committee's recommendation to create a new membership category in 2010-2011 for corporate level sponsorship, my initial efforts this summer will be to draft a letter for mailing and to compile a potential list of various corporate organizations/ charitable foundations and their respective contact person. This will be presented at the Fall NACTA Executive Committee Meeting.

Total NACTA membership numbers experienced a large decline during the past year due to a sizeable drop in both the number of Institutional Active Members and Active Members. Graduate student memberships continue to decrease in substantial numbers as well. If NACTA membership numbers continue this downward trend, the Executive Committee will need to discuss the possibility of a membership dues increase and/or a special fund raising effort to maintain a favorable balance in the NACTA Treasurer's account.

Editor's Report / Publications Committee Report - Rick Parker

Submissions and Reviewers

Table 1 describes the NACTA manuscripts submitted, reviewed, accepted and rejected through FastTrack for the past four years.

Table 1. NACTA Manuscripts Submitted and Accepted

Year	Submitted	Accepted	Percent	Rejected	Percent
2009	58	42	72%	16	28%
2008	48	30	63%	18	37%
2007	44	29	66%	15	34%
2006	41	30	73%	11	23%
Average	48	33	69%	15	31%

With an average of 33 accepted manuscripts per year each issue of the Journal contains seven to eight published manuscripts, a reprint from a past *Journal*, Teaching Tips/Notes, NACTA Yesterday (feature from the Historian), and book reviews,

Besides the manuscripts submitted through the NACTA FastTrack (<http://nacta.ft.expressacademic.org>) 5 Teaching Tips/Notes and 10 book reviews were submitted. These items are not peer reviewed. For 2010, 36 manuscripts have been submitted as of the end of June. The *NACTA Journal Review Board* in 2009 consisted of 44 reviewers from 29 different institutions.

The overall statistics for the NACTA FastTrack site include: 267 total submissions in 4 years and 1 months: 5.3 submissions/month, 64.3 submissions/year (including book reviews and teaching tips/notes); 612 reviews: 8 (1%) pending, 593 (97%) completed, 6 (1%) expired, 5 (1%) declined and 35.8 average days in review

Fourteen members of the *Journal Review Board* whose term ends the last day of June 2010 were contacted and asked if they wished to renew for another three years. 11 renewed their term; 3 didn't renew and 3 were dropped since they did not renew their NACTA membership. The *Journal Review Board* is open to any NACTA member wishing to serve as a reviewer. Going into the new year we have 37 reviewers, so six to eight new reviewers will be added

For the 2009 NACTA/SERD Conference the Editor received and oversaw the review of 225 abstracts (up from 170 in 2009 and 140 in 2008). Abstracts were electronically submitted to a new website provided by CyberSense. Each abstract was assigned three reviewers. Based on the reviews abstracts were accepted as oral presentations, poster presentations, or rejected (38). The local planning team at Penn State assigned the presentations to session days and

times. The abstracts are published in a booklet for participants at the Penn State Conference. They are also published online on the *NACTA Journal* website and the NACTAteachers.org website. Whether they will be published as a part of the hard copy of the *NACTA Journal* remains to be determined.

Website and electronic publishing: The June 2010 issue of the *NACTA Journal* was recently placed on the NACTA FastPress website (<http://nacta.fp.expressacademic.org/>). It is available only to members (login and password) as are the other issues for 2010 and 2009. An annual hard copy of the 2009 *Journal* was mailed to all members. This could change next year as it was very costly. In the future, members might have to purchase a hard copy from Lulu.com or we might change printers to Sheridan Press in Hanover, PA.

The new NACTAteachers.org website is up and running and is a very valuable communication tool. The content is changed frequently. Statistics on use are gathered. Through the NACTAteachers website we can have award nominations submitted and reviewed. (This was possible last year too.)

NACTA is on Facebook and 78 people "Like" us. [Find us on Facebook](#). Leave us a comment on our "wall." Content is added on a regular basis.

Addition to the "Instructions for NACTA Authors." Documentation of Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval or exemption is mandatory:

State explicitly that human subjects' review was approved and how informed consent or assent was obtained.

If the protocol was exempt from IRB approval, then indicate this.

If there are questions about IRB procedures, see the following link:

http://www.hhs.gov/ohrp/irb/irb_guidebook.htm

These are examples of IRB approval statements:

The <insert institution name> Institutional Review Board approved the study protocol and all participants provided written informed consent prior to participation in the study.

This study was deemed exempt by <insert institution name> Institutional Review Board.

This study was deemed exempt under federal regulation 45 CFR §46.101(b).

Reference:

www.hhs.gov/ohrp/humansubjects/guidance/45cfr46.htm#46.101

Thanks to Carol O'Neil at LSU for providing this statement.

Other items:

Book review process needs to be fixed.

Recommendations:

- Fix the book review process.
- Find six to eight new reviewers to join the *NACTA Journal* Review Board.
- Use the NACTA awards nomination site. (Some training and changing of wording on awards will be needed.)
- Determine whether all members will receive an annual hard copy of the *Journal*.
- Involve others in contributing to the NACTAteachers.org website
- Provide assistance to get the award nominations submitted and reviewed through the website.
- Increase the use of the NACTA website by members.

Historian's Report - Jim McKenna

I am pleased to report that we have continued Bob's "NACTA Yesterday" column in the NACTA Journal. We had a 50, 30, 20, and 10 year ago page in each issue this past year. I have tried to focus on people and the evolution of NACTA. I would hope that if NACTA members have additional ideas for this page in the Journal, they will contact me (jamckenn@vt.edu) and share them.

There have also been several questions about past events and people that I have handled over this past year. I am currently working with George Chronis to try and retrieve some of the pre 2004 NACTA Conference web sites for the NACTA web page.

Again, if there are other things that the Historian needs to be attending to, please let me know.

Eastern Region Director's Report - M. Susie Whittington

As I receive electronic notices from Marilyn identifying new members, I send an email to each individual to welcome them to NACTA and to share with them the website address as well as information about the annual conference at Penn State. I tell them to feel free to contact me with questions, etc.

Marilyn also sends a notice to me regarding renewed and non-renewed members. I sent an e-mail to each of them re-explaining the benefits of membership and including a link to the NACTA website.

I mailed the new brochures to the non-renewed list. I also placed brochures in the mailboxes of the faculty and grad students in my department with a note from me about NACTA. Our Associate Dean's office was supplied with brochures to provide to new faculty hires at OSU.

I have contacted members (Institutional Active, Active Member, Life Member, Emeritus Member and Graduate Student Member) in my region via e-mail

Letters of appreciation (along with copies of the new brochure) were sent to Deans at the various Universities that sponsor multiple NACTA memberships on an annual basis for new faculty hires.

I sent an email to each NACTA member (institutional active and active) in the Eastern Region who did not renew their membership. The email message emphasized the benefits of NACTA membership and encouraged them to continue their membership.

Eastern Region totals

Institutional Active	104 (this is down)
Active	7 (this is down)
Institutions	24 (this is up by one)
Life Members	22 (this is up by one)
Graduate Students	7 (this is down)
Emeritus	4 (this is down)

Southern Region Director's Report - Jeannette Moore

As new members joined NACTA, the Secretary/Treasurer (Marilyn Parker) sent me an e-mail with the person's name, type of membership, and contact information. I sent a "Welcome to NACTA" e-mail message and encouraged all new members to be active and to attend the annual conference. I included a link to the NACTA web page and briefly described the teaching awards and the conference activities.

The current (June, 2010) membership numbers for the Southern Region are as follows: 31 Institutions, 166 Institutional Active (of which 27 are new this year), 8 Active (including 1 new), 47 Life (none new), 1 Emeritus (not new), and 18 Graduate Students (of which 8 are new) for a total of 240 individuals and 31 institutions. Of the 31 institutions, all were renewals (no new institutions joined the Southern Region this year).

The Southern Region includes Puerto Rico and the states of Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Texas.

Western Region Director's Report - Jim Knight

During the year contact was made with the Associate Deans for Academic Programs for the institutions in the Western Region. That was followed up with promotional efforts at the Western Region Teaching Symposium, which was held at Lake Tahoe, Nevada in September of 2009. A similar effort was made at the AAAE meeting in Omaha, Nebraska in May of 2010.

Throughout the year, as new members came into the organization from the region a welcome letter was sent inviting them to participate in the annual conference. In addition, an effort to get renewals from several institutions was done in May. That resulted in a modest renewal of some institutions. Since June 2009 for the Western Region there have been 10 new Institutional Active members, 2 Active and 1 grad student.

Journal Award Committee Report - G. Neil Douglas

The Journal Awards Committee again completed its task of reviewing and selecting articles for recognition at the 2010 annual conference. Once again, I would like to express my appreciation to all active committee members for their dedication to reviewing and selecting articles from each issue. We continue to employ a two ballot system that was introduced in 2005 to allow participation of committee members in all stages of the selection process. Initial ballots were sent to committee members in early March after receiving hard copies of the journal issues. Seven of the 31 articles from this year's issues were selected to appear on the second ballot issued in late March. Award winners were notified via letters sent out the first week of April.

Thirteen of the 28 members listed submitted ballots this spring compared to 15 that participated in 2009. The initial ballot resulted in 20 articles (63%) being ranked as first, second, and/or third place with 10 of those articles (31%) being ranked as the top paper. Members commented that the initial rankings were, as usual, difficult given the breadth and scope of the articles. Members also stated that personal as well as academic interest, writing style, and experimental design were some of the major factors that influenced their initial rankings. However, rankings of articles on the second ballot clearly distinguished the top articles to be recognized by the Journal Awards Committee.

The committee would also like to express its gratitude to Editor Rick Parker for his expertise and diligence in selecting articles for the 2009 NACTA Journal. Once more, these articles have continued to inspire and promote excellence in teaching. The committee chair would also like to express appreciation to NACTA Secretary Marilyn Parker for her unwavering support of our committee and its goals.

The Journal Award Committee selected the following articles for recognition:

E. B. Knight

An Examination of Students' Knowledge of What Constitutes Plagiarism

53(4):30-35

Heidi Radunovich, Eboni Baugh, and Elaine Turner

Jack Everly

Determinants of Students' First Impressions of Instructors and Courses

53(3):24-36

J. Ross Pruitt, Michael R. Dicks, and Daniel S. Tilley

Honorable Mention

Relationships between Critical Thinking Disposition and Need for Cognition among Undergraduate Students Enrolled in Leadership Courses

53(3):62-70

Nicole L. P. Stedman, Traci A. Irani, Curt Friedel, Emily B. Rhoades, and John C. Ricketts

**Educational Issues and Teaching Improvement Committee
Annual Report - Ann Marie VanDerZanden**

The EITI committee includes 11 members, each assigned to a 3-year, year term and has representation from 9 different universities and 8 different agriculture related disciplines. I have contacted committee members whose terms expire at the June 2010 meeting and have an updated committee membership through June 2011.

The EITI committee worked with the Penn State's conference organizing committee and selected Jim McKenna from Virginia Tech as the Blue Ribbon Speaker. I contacted him on behalf of the committee in fall 2009 and he generously accepted our invitation to speak.

At the 2009 Oklahoma State hosted conference the EITI committee developed a list of workshop and roundtable discussion topics (listed below) related to the 2010 conference theme. These ideas were forwarded to the Penn State committee.

Workshop ideas (75 minutes on Thursday afternoon; following the roundtable discussions)

1. SERD participants addressing how they were successful in securing one of the USDA grants;
2. Penn State discussing their 3-year branding/marketing program
3. Doing the scholarship of teaching and learning (SoTL) in formal and non-formal situations (e.g. Extension, co-curricular activities);

4. The changing demographics of our students (fewer highschool seniors graduating, more adult learners; What will these students want?, How will we teach them?, How will we retain them?)

5. International travel courses: can we collaborate across universities?

Roundtable discussion topics under the three broad theme categories

Collaborate:

Research, teaching and extension programming

Extramural funding & scholarship

Centers & institutes (within universities and between universities)

Using information technology to collaborate

Communicate:

Marketing & promotion

Alumni & industry committees (successful examples; pros and cons of establishing such committees)

Distance Education

Recruitment of non-traditional students

Interactive technologies (Twitter, Facebook, etc.)

Celebrate

Recognizing the scholarship of teaching (formal and non formal; types of awards)

Student successes after graduating

Student recognition/awards programs while at the university (developing sponsorships with university development offices)

The EITI Committee will meet on Thursday, June 24th during the committee meeting time.

2010 Teacher Recognition Committee Report – Prasanta Kalita

The committee currently has 32 members (2 new members joined at the 2009 Oklahoma meeting). Several members did not renew their membership for NACTA for 2010, and they were excluded from reviewing NACTA award nomination in 2010.

The 2009 annual meeting of the TR committee at Oklahoma was attended by 14 members. The TR committee presented a workshop in Stillwater on teaching awards, and was well received. The committee discussed the following issues:

-Removing barriers for award nominations

-Nominating more graduate students

-Having contact person in departments/institutions for award nominations

- Establishing NACTA culture in departments
- Getting nominations from non Land-grant and other 4-years institutions
- Submitting on-line nominations

Some significant changes have taken place in 2009-10. NACTA new website has been developed. On-line submission of award nominations is under consideration. An *Ad Hoc NACTA Teaching Awards Review Committee* has been appointed by NACTA President Dr. Mullen. This committee, chaired by Dr. Kirby Barrick, has developed recommendations for *Awards Presentation Program* and *Awards Program*. This report will be presented at the 2010 NACTA Annual meeting.

In 2010, numbers of NACTA award nominations are similar to that in 2009. Twenty eight TR committee members reviewed the nominations. Below is a summary of the 2010 teaching awards:

Teacher Fellow: There were 23 nominations from 10 institutions, and 21 nominees will receive the Teacher Fellow award. Multiple nominations came from North Carolina State University (3), Southern Utah University (3), University of Alberta (2), University of Florida (4), and University of Illinois (6); other institutions submitted one nomination each.

Graduate Student Teaching Award: There were 17 nominations (4 more than 2009) from 12 institutions (4 more than 2009), and all but one will receive the award. Multiple nominations came from Purdue (2), Illinois (2), Oklahoma (2), Kansas State (2), Florida (2) and Ohio State (2); other institutions submitted one nomination each.

Higher Awards: There was no nomination for the *Teaching Award of Excellence* in 2010. There was one nomination received for the *John Deere Award*. One nomination was received for each of the Eastern, *Central*, and *Southern Regional Awards*. No nominations were received from the *Canadian* or the *Western* regions. Only one award can be presented for each region.

International Committee Report - Phil Hamilton

The International Committee attempted to gather information regarding international involvement of NACTA members and their respective institutions. However, it project was a failure for two main reasons: 1] too many respondents felt that they could not provide accurate institutional information; and 2] the instrument seemed to be “two surveys in one” since both individual and institutional questions were in the same SurveyMonkey® survey.

2010 ADDENDUM Report for Executive Committee – June 25, 2010

After acquiring a recommendation from Rick Parker, NACTA Journal Editor, the idea was presented to the International Committee on Wednesday, June 23rd. The committee liked the idea of using the new NACTA website to create two different online surveys: one institutional and one individual. Also, the committee agreed on two new ideas: 1] creating profiles of members with links to International departments of their individual institution; 2] creating a database – first for the International Committee – then for the entire NACTA membership that also uses a member profile – but, with a searchable database for ALL POSSIBLE ACADEMIC COLLABORATIONS – teaching, research, extension (outreach).

I shall be asking for volunteers to help guide Rick Parker and the website manager on designing this part of the website. Chris Morgan (Univ. of Georgia) and Mark Russell (Purdue Univ.) have both stepped up to the plate to help with project and to take on other committee leadership roles (vice-chair and secretary for the committee). We see our committee as being the guinea pigs for the beta version of the database. I am asking all other committee members to also help us design the database since they all seemed to be very excited at the meeting. We all know that we can only sort the information that is found in the membership profile.

The National Honor Society of Delta Tau Alpha - Jean A. Gleichsner

Greetings to the Executive Committee and members of the North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture, I am pleased to report on the activities of DTA over the past year. Total historical membership is now over 15,000.

National DTA Website. Information about DTA can be found at <http://bigcat.fhsu.edu/agriculture/natdta>.

51st Annual National Convention Highlights. The National Convention was hosted by Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, TX on March 25-27, 2010. A special thank you goes to the members of Sam Houston State University DTA Chapter for hosting a great convention. Thirteen chapters attended the national convention.

New officers were elected. The officers for 2010-2011 are:

- President: Kyle Ferrell, Abilene Christian University
- VP-Eastern: Terra Kimes, Tennessee Tech University
- VP-Midwest: Roy Tarvin, University of Central Missouri
- VP-Southern: Casey Page, Sam Houston State University
- Secretary: Kristine Ely, Tennessee Tech University
- Parliamentarian: Joseph Summers, Tennessee Tech University

- National Advisor: Dr. Jean Gleichsner, Fort Hays State University (2nd year of two-year term)
- National Treasurer: Dr. James Casey, Tennessee Tech University (elected to another 2 year term)

Tennessee Tech University won the Agriculture Quiz Bowl and Eastern Kentucky University was second.

Sam Houston State University received the Corbus Award as outstanding chapter. Honorable mention went to Fort Hays State University and Tennessee Tech University.

Tennessee Tech University received the Highest % Convention Attendance Award. Honorable mention went to Abilene Christian University and Fort Hays State University.

Tennessee Tech University received the Highest Convention Attendance Award. Honorable mention went to Abilene Christian University.

Future Conventions

The convention rotates among the three regions. Bids have been accepted through 2012.

2011 (Eastern) – Middle Tennessee State University (March 5-7, 2011)

2012 (Midwest) – University of Central Missouri

Association of College Honor Societies (ACHS). ACHS has created a national project as a way to achieve a long-standing goal of the organization: to increase the visibility of both ACHS and its member societies in the higher education community. The ACHS National Project is on social responsibility. As a member society, DTA Chapters are encouraged to participate in the national project. Ideas for projects are available at the ACHS web site (a link to the ACHS web site may be found at the DTA web site).

National Faculty Officer. The term for National DTA Executive Advisor will expire in 2011. Dr. Jean Gleichsner is willing to serve another term pending appointment by the NACTA President.

NACTA Judging Conference Liaison Report - Lyle E. Westrom

The 2010 NACTA Judging Conference was held at Redlands Community College in El Reno, Oklahoma on April 15-17, 2010. Competitions were held in eight contest areas with more than over 750 students competing. Twenty-four four-year division schools competed and 22 two-year division schools competed. The four-year division sweepstakes was won by the University of Minnesota Crookston while the two-year division was won by Coffeyville Community College.

The business meeting yielded significant discussion on several items of business. Derek Dick from Coffeyville Community College chaired the meeting with Terrill Bradford from the University of Minnesota Crookston serving as Secretary. The overall sweepstakes award was again brought up for discussion, but last year's proposal to eliminate it was enacted. Coffeyville Community College won the two-year division; earning them the right to choose the new trophy or the past traveling trophy. Coffeyville Community College chose the stately historical traveling trophy with the University of Minnesota Crookston taking the beautiful new trophy donated by Todd Blocker from Eastern Oklahoma State College. Derek Dick from Coffeyville Community College in Coffeyville, Kansas was re-elected to a two year term as President of the coaches group that oversees the NACTA Judging competitions. A resolution was passed to recognize Dr. Larry Devane, Dr. Penny Coggins, Amanda Evert, Annie Pearson, Cynthia Patterson, and Tammy Maples along with other faculty, staff and students from Redlands Community College in El Reno, Oklahoma for conducting an outstanding judging conference.

The 2011 NACTA Judging Conference will be held at Modesto Junior College in Modesto, California on April 14-16, 2011. The site for 2012 is Coffeyville Community College, Coffeyville, Kansas.

AASCAR Report -Kevin Bacon

In my last report as AASCARR liaison, I mentioned the possibility of having a panel discussion with AASCARR on how NACTA and AASCARR could work more closely together. I have discussed this with the AASCARR board at their fall meeting and they were interested in the idea especially given how NACTA is becoming something of an umbrella group for higher education related issues cutting across our respective disciplines. AASCARR has assured me that they will have representation and as I look through the list of attendees I do see a number from AASCARR schools.

I am anticipating the group of attendees being small enough to treat this more as a discussion session focusing on two key points: 1) What can NACTA do to facilitate increased participation from AASCARR schools and 2) What is the value of involvement with NACTA in the P&T process for faculty at AASCARR schools?

I have asked Foy to help out with this given the depth and breadth of his experience with NACTA, his understanding of Land Grant Schools, and his current experience with non-land grants. I am looking for one or two from the executive board that would have time as well. Our session will be on Thursday, June 24 from 2:45 to 3:45.

CAPICU Liaison Report - Foy Mills

There is minimal information to communicate since the mid-year report. The meeting of the CAPICU group scheduled for Wilmington College spring 2010 did not materialize. Subsequent conversations with Dr. Monte Anderson (Wilmington College), board chair, indicated that due to scheduling conflicts, neither he nor Dr. Al Conklin will be able to attend the NACTA conference this year.

Therefore, it appears the forward momentum generated by the presence of a majority of the CAPICU representatives at the NACTA 2009 Conference has slowed. Regardless, some CAPICU schools (e.g., ACU, Delaware Valley) are represented at the 2010 conference. I will connect with Dr. Anderson in the coming year to see what can be done in preparation for the 2011 NACTA Conference.

NACTA Foundation Advisory Council – Kevin Donnelly

At the fall executive committee meeting, a dedicated discussion was held regarding future directions for the NACTA Foundation. Tom Lindahl, NACTA Foundation Director, participated via conference call. The market value of Foundation assets is currently in the \$70,000-80,000 range depending on the market, down from the peak of over \$100,000 at one time. New donations since the market collapse have been minimal.

Director Lindahl stated that we need to be forward thinking and make this a higher priority. He feels that companies should have an interest in education via our role in training future employees, but we need to have contacts within these companies that we can sell those benefits to. He needs help from NACTA people with the sales work to the businesses. He has tried to use a regional approach with assistance from the Regional Directors for contacts, but this has bogged down in recent years. Prior to creation of the Foundation Director, there was a greater expectation that the Regional Directors assist with fund-raising especially for supporting the regional teaching awards, but even those are not yet all funded. He suggested a more national approach, but has been away from academia long enough that he does not have the necessary contacts for individuals on the “inside” that need to be contacted. It was suggested that Regional Directors and all other NACTA leaders need to interact with recruiters and HR folks that come to our campuses for interviews and get the names of “key inside people” that the director can then pursue. We need to sell the “quality faculty” concept that NACTA fosters as valuable to them via future employees.

An open discussion was held to brain-storm ideas. We could create a named program (ie. “Gold Society” - \$500 for five years). Companies could be asked to sponsor awards. We have a model now with John Deere, but that one is so restrictive that it is sometimes not awarded. Can it be more generic (ie. request

that they “support NACTA in its awards program to support teaching excellence”)?

Another idea was to offer an option for sponsors to support registration to the annual conference for first-time attendees. What about NACTA life members – have we tried to get them to be more supportive? Since they don't pay dues, they don't get an annual request to contribute like regular members. It was recommended that we make a dedicated effort to get their support – perhaps this would be a good group to sponsor first-time attendees. Perhaps a mailing to them with some “check box” options (ie. support awards, support the Foundation, support first-time attendees).

We need a slick brochure to market the Foundation – mission statement, value, include letter from past award recipient/s on significance of our awards, etc. We have to sell the concept that we are about teaching excellence, and how that leads to excellent students for them to employ. We need a link to a description on our website to sell this concept for corporate friends and other potential supporters. Why would they want to be involved?

Discussion followed on the need to integrate/combine with the efforts for Corporate Sponsorship/Membership that the executive committee has been discussing for some time. *(From Fall 09 Committee Report by Mike Mullen - Corporate and/or Education memberships; who would approach entities; who would send renewals; listing of businesses to approach; constitutional changes if this were to occur. The proposal is to establish a “Corporate Educational Partner” membership status at the June 2010 meeting.)* Will the focus of the corporate sponsorship be to cover awards, or meeting expenses? Will these be annual or endowed? Should a portion of corporate sponsorships, if attained, go to the Foundation? Or only any excess over the awards amount (currently about \$8600)? Currently the \$5 from membership dues goes into the NACTA cash to cover awards, so perhaps awards money raised by corporate sponsorships could all go to the endowment. Should/could we add to the membership dues for an automatic contribution to the Foundation endowment each year?

The Corporate Sponsorship presents similar challenges that the Foundation Director has faced – who are the key people to contact and who will do it? Execs are proposed to do corporate membership efforts, and provide names by next fall. Should this become the primary focus for the Foundation Director in the near term?

The Advisory Committee and Foundation Director have corresponded regarding future structure, expectations, and support for the Director. The current Director serves in a voluntary role and NACTA covers expenses. As discussed for some time, in this model he does not feel he can be successful without much more assistance from the Regional Directors and Executive Committee with the

Foundation efforts. Would we gain from a more aggressive model with a salary or incentive plan for the Director?

The Foundation Advisory Committee will meet prior to the June NACTA Foundation meeting to develop specific recommendations from the ideas presented at the fall meeting and future structure of the Foundation. The Foundation Director will attend. All executive committee members are also invited to attend.

NACTA Judging Contest Faculty Award – At the fall executive meeting, I presented a proposal to the Foundation and NACTA regarding creation of an award for student service, with focus on contributions to the NACTA Judging Conference. I offered a plan to put up \$5000 in personal funds towards a Judging Contest award if matching funds can be raised. Several points were discussed (who would be eligible; criteria for award; separate from teacher recognition guidelines/awards; change in constitution needed; due date; value in helping get AASCARR schools involved, etc.)

A motion was approved to accept the concept of creating a NACTA Judging and Student Service Award and allow Donnelly to promote the idea prior to the next Judging Conference in April, 2010. An ad hoc committee was appointed to work with Kevin Donnelly as the chair to further develop details of the criteria (Lyle Westrom, Derek Dick, Jeannette Moore and Ron Hanson).

Prior to the NACTA Judging Conference in April, I sent an email to all participating coaches with an explanation of the proposed award and an appeal for donations. I also attended the coaches dinner at El Reno, OK, prior to the contests and presented the idea and distributed promotional flyers. There was good support for the idea, but limited actual contributions or commitments have been received to date. I will continue to follow up with this project, and will work to make some specific contacts with retired coaches or administrators that may be interested and in a position to help.

Foundation Financial Report June 2010 – Tom Lindahl & Marilyn Parker

The below numbers are as of April 30, 2010.

Spendable: \$6,997.00

Endowed: \$93,251.64

Market Loss: (\$13,316.72)

Total Endowed: \$79,934.92

Numbers as of June 21, 2010 - The NACTA Foundation fund performance from July 1, 2009 to April 30, 2010 is as follows:

The total return for the fund was \$12581.08
2% of this gain was placed into the spendable account which was \$1266.93.
The payment to the foundation for management of the fund was \$1740.34.
This leaves the gain amount for this 10 month period as \$9573.81.

Report of the Ad Hoc NACTA Teaching Awards Committee - Kirby Barrick

Background Information

On January 20, 2010, President Mike Mullen appointed an ad hoc committee to review and offer recommendations regarding the NACTA Teaching Awards Program. Committee members include Prasanta Kalita, Jeff Hattey, Susie Whittington, Bonnie Walters, and Kirby Barrick, who served as chair. The following background information (summarized) was presented to the committee.

Discussion has occurred about the awards system and the awards presentation program.

Some have intimated that too few schools receive too many awards; concurrently, too few schools submit nominations.

Land-grant schools may be dominating the awards program (more winners), and probably are dominating the nominations.

Is the nomination process itself limiting nominations? Are the forms too long, too cumbersome, too something?

Does the awards system meet the objectives of NACTA? Are the awards aligned with NACTA values? Are there gaps or deficiencies in the awards system?

There is some concern about the term "fellow" in the NACTA Teacher Fellow Award.

Some believe the awards ceremony is too long; suggestions have been made to streamline the presentations.

Is there a need to revise the scoring rubric for the awards?

The committee addressed the issue in two phases: the awards presentation and the awards criteria/selection.

Awards Presentation Program Recommendations

On March 5, 2010, the committee submitted to President Mullen the following recommendations for the awards program presentations, so that the 2010 NACTA Conference Committee (in conjunction with the Executive Committee) would have time to implement changes for 2010.

1. Create a staging area near the stage. Have each group of award recipients and nominators (if present) move to staging area at the start of each awards section (Grad Awards, Fellows, etc.).
2. Introduce on-stage each award winner and nominator, if present. Announcer needs to know in advance if nominator is present. If not, only award winner introduced.
3. Introduction by announcer: name, rank and institution. Comments about winner to be three sentences maximum and not be repetitive of printed program; could be a quote from nomination packet.
4. Award winners not present are mentioned only by name and institution.
5. NACTA President present award on stage to winner.
6. Photo of winner or winner and nominator taken off-stage immediately after presentation. An alternative would be to take photos prior to the ceremony; the President could be in the photos, but this may be disruptive of lunch/dinner.

Awards Program Recommendations

The committee reviewed the criteria, nomination process and scoring rubrics for the three categories of NACTA teaching awards: Graduate Student, Teacher Fellow, and Regional Teaching. The following recommendations are offered in each area.

I. Graduate Student Teaching Award

Eligibility:

- Remove requirement to include checklist (retain check list in overall instructions)
- Retain remaining current criteria

Dossier (number the sections 1 through 8):

1. Cover page, including membership status to address eligibility
2. Nominee's teaching philosophy, not to exceed five double-spaced pages
3. Complete description of nominee's specific teaching involvement
4. Self evaluation of nominee's teaching activities

5. Summary of student evaluations of teaching, plus 2-3 letters of support from current or former students
6. Letter of support from a faculty member directly involved in the nominee's teaching activities
7. Letter of support from an administrator directly related to the nominee's teaching activities
8. Statement about nominee's involvement in activities related to teaching (clubs, review sessions, committees, etc.)

Special Instructions:

- Retain information currently in this section; move information regarding Cover Page to item #1 under Dossier
- Delete "tabs" requirement

Scoring:

- Move 50 points from "Peers" to "Administrator"

II. NACTA Teacher Fellow

Eligibility:

- Current membership in NACTA
- Full-time appointment involving at least 25% teaching for at least five of the past seven years
- Remove requirement to include checklist (retain check list in overall instructions)

Dossier (number the sections 1 through 6h.):

1. Cover page, including membership status to address eligibility
2. Nominee's teaching philosophy, not to exceed five double-spaced pages
3. Summary of student evaluations of teaching for most recent five years, plus letters of support from 2-3 current or former students
4. Letter of support from an administrator directly related to the nominee's teaching activities
5. Letter of support from a peer
6. Self evaluation of nominee's teaching activities to include the following sections:
 - a. availability to students

- b. ability to attract and motivate students
- c. use of current, innovative and effective teaching methods
- d. current in subject matter, including relevance to agricultural, environmental, natural, and life sciences
- e. scholarly activities related to teaching
- f. participation in department/institution/profession affairs
- g. outreach and engagement related to teaching
- h. student-related activities

Special Instructions:

- Retain information currently in this section; move information regarding Cover Page to item #1 under Dossier
- Delete “tabs” requirement

Scoring:

- Move 135 points from “Alumni” to “Student”
- Move 15 points from “Alumni” to “Administrator”
- Move 15 points from “Alumni” to “Peer”

III. Regional Outstanding Teacher Award

Eligibility:

- Remove requirement to include checklist (retain check list in overall instructions)
- Retain remaining current criteria

Dossier:

- Same as Teacher Fellow, but add sections “Promotion and Enhancement of Teaching” and “Involvement with NACTA”

Special Instructions:

- Same as Teacher Fellow

Scoring:

- Same as Teacher Fellow criteria, but add “Promotion and Enhancement of Teaching” (100 points) and “Involvement with NACTA” (100 points)