



June 2020

**NACTA
Executive Committee Reports**

Table of Contents

NACTA Officer and Officer-Chaired Reports	3
• President – Foy Mills Jr., Lubbock Christian University	3
• Past President – Ann Marie VanDerZanden, Iowa State University	4
• President-Elect – Marcos Fernandez, Purdue University	5
• Secretary/Treasurer – Lee Wood, Southern Utah University.....	5
• Membership Director – Tracy Dougher, Montana State University.....	6
• Journal Editor – Frank Robinson, University of Alberta – Edmonton.....	6
• Historian and APLU/APS Update – Tracy Hoover, Penn State University.....	7
• Parliamentarian – Daniel Foster, Penn State University.....	8
Regional Director Reports	8
• Canadian Regional Director – Heather Bruce, University of Alberta - Edmonton.....	8
• Eastern Regional Director – Daniel Foster, Penn State University.....	9
• Central Regional Director – Cheryl Wachenheim, North Dakota State University	9
• Western Regional Director – Ed Franklin, University of Arizona.....	10
• Southern Regional Director – Nick Fuhrman, University of Georgia	10
• Judging Conference Director – Drew Cotton, Blackhawk College Illinois	10
• Committee and Liaison Reports	10
• Educational Issues and Teaching Improvement Committee (EITI) – Brian Pearson, University of Florida.....	10
• Teacher Recognition Committee – Shyam Nair, Sam Houston State University	11
• Journal Awards – Chad Miller, Kansas State University	11
• International Committee – Melanie Miller Foster, Penn State University.....	12
• NACTA Foundation Committee – Kevin Donnelly, Kansas State University.....	12
• DTA Update – Elizabeth Walker, Missouri State University	14
• NAARU Update – Todd Winters, University of Tennessee – Martin	14
• 2021 Program – Thom Janini, The Ohio State University-ATI	14

NACTA Executive Committee Reports June 2020

NACTA Officer and Officer-Chaired Reports

President – Foy Mills Jr., Lubbock Christian University

- Established contractual relationship with JulNet, Huntington, WV, to serve as new management firm for NACTA after:
 - Consideration of management options for NACTA emerged from “NACTA Transition Blueprint, June 2017-June 2019” approved by the Executive Committee in 2017 and by membership in 2018.
 - Ann Marie VanDerZanden (Iowa State), 2018-19 NACTA president, extended a request for proposals (RFP) regarding association management during her tenure as president. After rigorous review, the Executive Committee overwhelmingly chose JulNet to serve in this capacity.
- Edited and provided letters for award winners recognized at the 2019 annual conference.
- Weekly:
 - Involvement with JulNet in implementation of NACTA transition plan (e.g., financials, records, membership, journal).
 - Planning meetings with JulNet, Ann Marie VanDerZanden, past president, Marcos Fernandez (Purdue), president-elect, and more recently, newly elected president-elect, Susie Whittington (Ohio State).
- Conducted site visit and mid-year Executive Committee meeting from New Mexico State University (NMSU), Las Cruces, New Mexico.
- Monthly:
 - Conducted meetings of Executive Committee, committee chairs, liaisons, and annual conference site chairs.
 - Oversight of NACTA committees and their activities.
- Appointed ad hoc committee to review current NACTA bylaws. After approval by Executive Committee, commissioned Daniel Foster (Penn State) and hired Jim Connors (Idaho) to revise the NACTA bylaws. Revisions reviewed by Executive Committee, committee chairs, liaisons, and annual conference site chairs. Approved by Executive Committee for submission to membership for approval at annual conference.
- Due to COVID-19 restrictions, regrettably cancelled annual conference at NMSU. Appointed ad hoc committee, led by Marcos Fernandez, to determine viability of virtual conference. Recommendation submitted to and approved by Executive Committee to host a virtual conference in 2020.
- Final preparations to conduct annual business meeting virtually and to transfer leadership to president-elect, Marcos Fernandez, at conclusion of annual conference.

Past President – Ann Marie VanDerZanden, Iowa State University

It has been an honor and a pleasure to continue to serve the NACTA organization this year as past president. The organization continues to evolve in positive and forward-looking ways including transitioning to a new executive management firm starting in July 2019.

July 2019 – May 2020

- Per the bylaws, identified potential members for the nominating committee and forwarded to the President. The committee consists of: three past presidents (VanDerZanden, Russell, Dougher) and two members appointed by the President (Lurline Marsh and Daniel Foster).
- Chaired the nominating committee and worked with committee members to develop a shared spread sheet to manage potential nominees contacts.
- Led committee to develop a 'one-pager' that described officer positions that will be elected in 2020 and included Pro Tips from Past Leaders to highlight how getting involved in NACTA leadership is beneficial to the individual and the organization. This information has been shared with JulNet, NACTA's executive management firm, for use in future years and for posting to the website as appropriate in advance of officer elections.
- Implemented recommendation from 2019 nominating process to solicit nominations and self--nominations in October from the entire membership to ensure a more inclusive process; call for nominations was distributed via the NACTA newsletter and outreach by committee members.
- Presented a slate of nominees for President-elect, Central Regional Director-elect and Canadian Regional Director-elect at the November Executive Committee meeting. Collected nominees' bios and other support materials and forwarded to JulNet for posting along with the ballot and voting information.
- Developed promotional material for the NACTA Distinguished Educator Award; received 3 nomination packets and forwarded to JulNet for distribution to the Executive Committee. Facilitated review of nominees and selection of awardee. Communicated decision to awardee and nominator, and to nominators for other nominations.
- Participated in 7-person Bylaws Special Committee to: review existing NACTA bylaws; draft updated bylaws that encompass the NACTA Foundation; and develop new standing rules. Contributed to the final review of bylaws and standing rules that were reviewed and approved by the Executive Committee (April 2020).
- Participated in monthly online meetings and assisted the President and President-elect as requested.

President-Elect – Marcos Fernandez, Purdue University

- Participated in weekly Zoom Meetings with President Foy Mills and representatives from JulNet, initially joined by Past-President Ann Marie VanDerZanden and later by incoming President-Elect, M. Susie Whittington.
- Participated in monthly NACTA Executive Committee Zoom Meetings.
- Supported NACTA President Mills when deemed appropriate.
- Travelled to Las Cruces, NM, visited the host site and met with leaders from New Mexico State University, hosts of the NACTA 2020 Annual Conference (eventually cancelled in lieu of the Covid-19 Pandemic, and replaced by the Virtual 2020 NACTA Conference (see below).
- Participated in the review and revision of the NACTA By-Laws and Standing Rules, and corresponding Zoom Meetings.
- Chaired ad hoc committee charged by President Mills to consider, propose and develop a Virtual 2020 NACTA Annual Conference alternative to the cancelled onsite 2020 Annual Conference originally scheduled and hosted by New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, NM. The committee was comprised of Frank Robinson (NACTA Journal Editor), Shyam Nair and Wendy Warner (Teacher Recognition Comm.), Melanie Foster (International Comm.), and myself (President-Elect), with input and contributions from Brian Pearson (NACTA EITI Comm.).
- Communications with APLU-APS concerning NACTA Workshop (led by Brian Pearson's EITI committee) on Workforce Development Study.
- Final preparations to assume duties of NACTA President (2020-21).

Secretary/Treasurer – Lee Wood, Southern Utah University

- Memberships maintained by JulNet; all new members are sent a welcome letter and their names are passed to the regional director and membership director within 30 days of joining.
- Membership includes:
 - Institutional members – 160
 - Student memberships – 294
 - Life members – 166
 - Total Individual members – 914
- NACTA is nearing the end of the first year of a new management association, JulNet
 - As a part of the reorganization:
 - Walls and Associates accounting firm has been retained to audit the organization and prepare tax information for the Internal Revenue Service.
 - Banking has been changed to Chase Bank in Huntington, West Virginia.
 - The NACTA Foundation and NACTA are in the process of merging into a single 501(c)3 nonprofit, charitable educational organization.
- Financial records are reviewed monthly, quarterly, and annually
- Membership dues are a major factor in keeping NACTA financially viable and membership has likely diminished somewhat due to the lack of a face to face annual conference
- With the changes in management, financial position will be reported using a different format
 - October, 2019 NACTA Statement of Financial Position total equity \$82,875

- March, 2020 NACTA Statement of Financial Position total equity \$93,174

Membership Director – Tracy Dougher, Montana State University

- The membership committee completed work with Ruth Inman’s class AGCM 4403: Planning Campaigns in Ag and Natural Resources at Oklahoma State University on a marketing communications plan for NACTA membership. The final products have been shared with the JulNet staff.
- The chair, Tracy Dougher, continues to update and maintain the Campus Ambassador list. This information should be handed over to JulNet for updating their database. The chair answered questions and directed Ambassadors to NACTA resources for their campus.
- As the membership director, Tracy still fields questions regarding membership and dues, mostly passing along the queries to JulNet.
- Participated in revisions to the constitution and bylaws to be voted on at the June annual meeting.

Journal Editor – Frank Robinson, University of Alberta – Edmonton

This past year has been a time of significant transition from the years of hard and dedicated work by Rick and Marilyn Parker to myself and a new NACTA office team. I appreciate the patience and encouragement of the NACTA membership during this time of learning and the refining of our processes.

The major effort of the NACTA Journal team this year has been the production of the special issue “Engaging Students in Global Agriculture” led by Melanie Miller Foster. A total of 20 papers were published in late 2019 for this special issue. To date (May 28, 2020) in 2020 no manuscripts have been published online.

The handling a review of abstracts for the 2020 NACTA conference was a major activity of the editor in Chief this past few months, particularly with the move to a virtual meeting. Presenters were given a choice of presenting an oral presentation, presenting a poster presentation, or withdrawing their abstract.

The duties that Rick and Marilyn Parker performed relative to the Journal have been divided between the Editor in Chief position and with JulNet. Elizabeth Davidson in the NACTA office prepares each new manuscript submission. I assign reviewers. I respond to reviewer comments and make decisions on suitability for publication. Once a paper is accepted and the final version is submitted, Elizabeth works to format the technical formatting and then sends the galley proofs to the authors for checking. They are then published online.

We have had some significant delays in manuscripts handling this past year as we all became acquainted with the evolving processes. Beginning in July 2020, we are initiating a tracking process to see where manuscripts are being held up with the objective of a more timely review and processing of manuscripts. As part of this initiative, reviewers are now only given 30 days to review a manuscript.

I would like to acknowledge the hard work that the manuscript and abstract reviewers do helping to create a high-quality journal and annual conference. We were experiencing some

difficulty in getting reviewers for manuscripts in the first few months since I took over. We put out a call for new reviewers and over 50 of you responded. Since we were processing a backlog of papers, I assigned reviewers irrespective of reviewer's subject discipline. In the next few months, I plan to contact each of our reviewers and fine-tune their preferred subject areas, the number of manuscripts they would like to review per year, and suggestions they have for improving the review process.

One of the procedures I would like to refine deals with resubmission of revised manuscripts after a review. Currently each resubmission is assigned a new manuscript identification number. I would like to have manuscripts retain the original submission number. Currently acceptance rates are calculated based on each revision being a new submission. I am planning to calculate acceptance rates based on a data set where each manuscript is one submission. This will start July 1, 2020.

I am happy with how the NACTA membership has responded to my call for teaching tips describing your transition online learning this past term during the Covid-19 experience. Many thanks to those of you who have submitted teaching tips and to those of you who are working on them. We try very hard to have teaching tips published online within a few days of submission. In the next year I would like to reimagine how teaching tips are presented by having an online forum for discussion of these teaching initiatives with each published tip.

Historian and APLU/APS Update – Tracy Hoover, Penn State University

- The 2019 APLU (Association of Public and Land-grant Universities) meeting was held November 9th – 12th in San Diego, CA. The Academic Programs Section represents membership of Associate Deans of Academic Programs in Land-grant and (NARRU) Non-land-grant Agriculture and Renewable Resources Universities.
- Todd Winters, Dean at Tennessee-Martin is our NACTA NARRU liaison and is also an APS member. Wendy Fink, Director of Food, Agriculture, and Natural Resources and Executive Director for the BAA Academic Programs Section regularly attends our NACTA conference.
- USDA/APLU/APS supports several awards and programs to support teaching and learning. Examples are the USDA/NIFA Teaching Excellence Award and the APS Innovative Teaching Award. Information on both of these awards can be found on the APLU/APS website: <http://www.aplu.org/members/commissions/food-environment-and-renewable-resources/board-on-agriculture-assembly/academic-programs-section/index.html>
- Please note, there have been changes to the nomination criteria for the above-mentioned teaching awards. Please check the web site for more details.
- APS/APLU Employability Survey – The preliminary results of this study were shared with APS members via webinars during 2019-20. There is a plan host a virtual workshop/program on the study during the NACTA 2020 Conference. More details will be shared as the NACTA conference has moved to a virtual mode of delivery. This action has the potential to reach more individuals who could not attend the conference in New Mexico.

- 2020 APLU Annual Conference - At this time, no details have been shared about plans for the 2020 APLU Annual Conference scheduled for early November in Orlando, FL.

Parliamentarian – Daniel Foster, Penn State University

Note: The parliamentarian is an appointed position serving at the will of the current president of NACTA. In June 2019, Daniel Foster was appointed by President Foy Mills to serve in this capacity.

It has been an active year for the parliamentarian.

Items of engagement include:

1. Leading Bylaw Revision Process
2. Developing Standing Rules
3. Assisting with Agendas, Scripts, and Virtual Conventions.

1. Bylaws Revision:

- A special committee chaired by the parliamentarian and consisting of the five additional members was appointed.
 - Members include:
 - Foy Mills, LCU
 - Ann Marie VanDerZanden, Iowa State
 - Marcos Fernandez, Purdue
 - Chris Estep, University of Arkansas
 - Julnet Representative
 - A consulting parliamentarian, Dr. Jim Connors (Idaho) was employed to assist
- Standing Rules
 - Standing were created for consideration by the Executive Committee.
- Convention Rules
 - Draft of Virtual Convention Rules were created.

Parliamentarian Roster:

2019-present . Daniel D. Foster, Pennsylvania State University

Regional Director Reports

Canadian Regional Director – Heather Bruce, University of Alberta - Edmonton

A very successful teaching circle has been established at the University of Alberta which met twice (December 12, 2019 and February 6, 2020) before the COVID-19 lockdown put in place in early March 2020. A NACTA Western Canadian conference was scheduled for May 6, 2020 at Lakeland College but it was cancelled due to COVID-19. Lakeland College is committed to holding the NACTA Western Canadian conference in 2021. Mr. James Benkie of Olds College volunteered to be the next Canadian Regional Director.

Eastern Regional Director – Daniel Foster, Penn State University

The Eastern Region Representation was active for NACTA in 2019-20. Specifically:

- Appointed to Nominating Committee by President Mills.
- Assisted/led Bylaws Revision Process
- Assisted with Special Committee for Virtual Conference, focusing on the APLU/EITI Workshop

Due to change in standard operating procedures with management firm transition, systematic welcoming of individuals with emails was attempted, but not consistent.

Routine reminders both locally and within the region, are provided to:

- Renew membership
- Submit abstracts to conference
- Nominate for awards
- Engage via social media and organization website

Eastern Region Footprint includes:

1. Connecticut
2. Delaware
3. Indiana
4. Kentucky
5. Maine
6. Maryland
7. Massachusetts
8. Michigan
9. New Hampshire
10. New Jersey
11. New York
12. Ohio
13. Pennsylvania
14. Rhode Island
15. Vermont
16. Virginia
17. West Virginia

Eastern region will host the 2021 National Conference in Wooster, Ohio.

Central Regional Director – Cheryl Wachenheim, North Dakota State University

Welcome letters sent to new NACTA members; follow-up messages sent to those members in the regions concerning: memberships, abstract submission, awards nominations; social media. Push to increase teaching award nominations as means to recognize teachers and increase membership.

Western Regional Director – Ed Franklin, University of Arizona

No report

Southern Regional Director – Nick Fuhrman, University of Georgia

Current Accomplishments

- Continued to nominate and recruit faculty in the Southern Region to apply for the NACTA Educator and NACTA Teaching Scholar Awards.
- Encouraged graduate student involvement in NACTA within the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences at the University of Georgia (UGA).

Future Plans

- Continue to promote graduate student attendance at our future conferences.
- Meeting with the Assistant Dean of Academic Affairs at UGA about reigniting the identification of faculty deserving the NACTA Teaching Award of Merit within UGA's College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences.

Judging Conference Director – Drew Cotton, Blackhawk College Illinois

- Encourage involvement at the NACTA Judging Contest.
- Poster competition of high value, please continue offering.
- Mac Burgess, Montana State, elected Chair-Elect. Burgess will become Chair at the conclusion of the 2020 meeting.

Discussion:

- Could new faculty and graduate students attend the contest as an observer to learn about the event. Yes, they can. Please contact the contest host to discuss.
- Committee would like to submit a workshop proposal for student managed farms at a future conference.

Committee and Liaison Reports

Educational Issues and Teaching Improvement Committee (EITI) – Brian Pearson, University of Florida

- Developed rubric to assist with the NACTA workshop abstract review and selection process. It is the recommendation of the committee to continue its use for future conference workshop selections.
- Received and reviewed 12 workshop abstracts with Dr. John Campbell, host coordinator at New Mexico State University. Dr. Campbell and I utilized the rubric to select 8 workshops for the NACTA conference.
 - Six presenters requested their workshop be deferred until 2021, one presenter requested to present their workshop virtually, and one presenter neglected to reply to an email indicating their preference.
 - The EITI committee requests that the six deferred workshops be delivered during the 2021 NACTA conference.
- The EITI committee selected Dr. Elaine Turner as the Blue Ribbon presenter for the 2020 NACTA conference. Dr. Turner elected to defer her presentation until 2021.
- Seventy-two applications were received for the NACTA conference travel grant award. Although 10 applicants were identified by the committee for funding, the awardees were

neither notified nor given an award disbursement. It is the recommendation of the EITI committee to not defer travel grant awards until 2021.

- Efforts to develop a student subcommittee were postponed until NACTA's restructuring was complete. Following approval of NACTA's restructuring in 2020, the EITI committee supports establishment of a student subcommittee.
- The EITI committee co-chair left her academic position in spring 2020 and will be unable to fulfill the role as chair beginning in June 2020. A current search is underway to identify and select a replacement co-chair. As former chair of the EITI, I will be happy and willing to assist the new chair during this transition.

Teacher Recognition Committee – Shyam Nair, Sam Houston State University

- This was my first year as the chair of the Teacher Recognition Committee. I greatly appreciate all the help from Wendy Warner (Past Chair) throughout the process.
- A big thank you to all the reviewers, especially those who reviewed additional documents at short notice during these unprecedented circumstances.
- A total of 74 awards were given out this year by the teacher recognition committee. This includes 40 Graduate Student Teaching Award, 31 Educator Awards, 1 Teaching Scholar Award, 1 Teaching Award of Excellence, and 1 John Deere Award.
- Some applications did not follow the direction. Do we need a process to kick out such applications are request a resubmission?
- It will be great have some improvements to Manuscript FastTrack including drop down boxes for the type of award, space to enter the names of nominators and nominees, and possibly notifying both nominators and nominees about the award decision.
- We also need to make some minor adjustments in the award website.

Journal Awards – Chad Miller, Kansas State University

First, I would like to thank the 8 NACTA members who agreed to serve on the committee. I appreciate their time and willingness to serve the NACTA organization, especially in an unprecedented time.

- Krishnaswamy Jayachandran; Florida International University
- Kendra Jernigan; Abilene Christian University
- Lurline Marsh; University of Maryland Eastern Shore
- Greg McKee; University of Nebraska
- Don Mulvaney; Auburn University
- Micheal Olexa; University of Florida
- Mark Russell; Purdue University
- Bob Stark; University of Arkansas at Monticello

The articles selected for the review process were those published between January 1, 2019 and October 31, 2019. Manuscripts that received at least one positive indicator (i.e., "Manuscript should be considered for an award") during the peer-review process. All teaching tips were reviewed. There were a total of 29 manuscripts and 28 teaching tips reviewed by the committee.

The review process was conducted in two rounds. Reviewers were randomly assigned to

review a similar number of manuscripts and teaching tips. A rubric was provided for reviews and the top two (highest scoring) papers and teaching tips for each review group were selected to go on for the second review. The second review consisted of six manuscripts and six teaching tips, which were reviewed and scored by all committee members. The top scoring manuscripts and teaching tips were those receiving the highest evaluations. All work was done electronically.

The manuscript winners:

E.B. Knight Award

Contrasting Science Learning Gains and Attitudes of Students in an Early Research-Based Experience

Authors: D.M. Arnold, C.J. Mortensen, A.C. Thoron, E.K. Miller-Cushon, and J.K. Miot

Jack Everly Award

Conceptualizing the Integration of Team-Based Learning into A Capstone Farm Management Course: Advice from Larry Michaelson

Authors: OP McCubbins, T. H. Paulsen, and R. Anderson

Bob Gough Teaching Tip Award

Performance Task Activity for a Soil Fertility Course

Authors: M. Sindelar, M. Mamo, and M. Keck

International Committee – Melanie Miller Foster, Penn State University

- Kelly Newlon resigned as chair after taking a new job, chair-elect Melanie Miller Foster stepped into the role in December 2019
- Global learning edition of the NACTA Journal was released online in December 2019
- An ad-hoc special committee is working on a proposal for NACTA Global Engagement Fellows
- At the June committee meeting a motion passed to change the name of the committee to the Global Engagement Committee in order to be more inclusive of different types of global learning and engagement

NACTA Foundation Committee – Kevin Donnelly, Kansas State University

The primary activities for the year have been transitioning the NACTA Foundation accounts to new management and changing the investment strategy within the Wells Fargo investment fund to a more conservative approach. After discussion and approval of the Foundation Advisory Council, we decided to leave the Investment Account with Wells Fargo serviced by Wells Fargo Advisors in Boise, ID. Transfer of signature authority from Marilyn Parker to myself as Foundation Director was completed in December.

I worked with Wells Fargo Advisors to learn that our funds were heavily invested in aggressive market driven funds that had done well overall but tracked up and down dramatically with fluctuations in the stock market. The Advisory Council discussed options through email exchanges and recommended a change in investment strategy to try to capture the strong gains and reduce volatility of stock market fluctuations. A change to a more conservative fund distribution was completed 12/26/2019, with an ending balance in December, 2019 of

\$184,468. This was the all-time high for our investment account since the original contribution of \$125,000 in August 2015. An additional \$12,000 was added in December 2017.

During the transition to JulNet management, we were advised that the Foundation needs to be more separated from the NACTA organization under the current structure. However, the NACTA leadership team has also been working on changing the 501(C)3 status of NACTA and eliminate the need for a separate Foundation. Per the current NACTA Foundation Constitution and structure, all financial transactions are to be approved by the Advisory Council. Thus, should the NACTA organization have special projects or new initiatives that need funding from the Foundation, NACTA should submit a proposal and request for such, whether from the investment account or the Foundation checking account.

The NACTA Foundation checking account funds from Idaho were transferred to a checking account set up by JulNet in West Virginia as of 10/2/2019 in the amount of \$28,129.15. This account was set up a few years ago to better keep Foundation funds from being comingled with NACTA organization funds. It is the initial point for deposit of donations to the Foundation, until they have accumulated to a sufficient amount to transfer to the Investment Account. It will also receive any funds transferred back from the Investment Account if needed to pay for awards or special projects. The checking account is also used to pay for pre-approved or annual expenditures that the Foundation normally covers (primarily the awards) plus any other items that the Foundation Council approves and directs to be paid. JulNet is still working on a way to account for the \$5 per member in dues that is collected for the Foundation. This transfer was also never completed in 2019.

The drive to endow the Parker Fund was essentially completed after the June 2019 meeting. After credit card fees were paid, just under \$10,915 was donated. These funds remain in the Foundation Checking Account.

- Investment Summary for 2019-2020
 - Current value of investments in Wells Fargo (4/30/2020) = \$170,781
 - Performance past year (since June 1, 2019):
 - Balance of \$159,842 end of May 2019
 - Peak of \$184,468 end of December 2019
 - Low of \$159,705 end of March 2020
 - Current Foundation checking account balance (4/30/2020) = \$24,129. JulNet will provide details on the checking account transactions.
 - Total assets (4/30/2020) = \$170,781 + \$24,129 = \$194,910
 - No major donations this year
- Recommendations:
 - Transfer at least \$11,000 representing the Parker fund to the Investment Account
 - Transfer \$5 per member dues allocation to the Foundation checking account to Appoint NACTA Foundation Advisory Council
 - Current Members:
 - Dean Winward, Southern Utah University (2018-2020) (second term)
 - Jill Rucker (Univ Arkansas) (2019-2021)
 - Foy Mills, Lubbock Christian (Current President)
 - Ann Marie VanDerZanden (Past President)
 - Mark Russell, Purdue University (Past-Past President)

- Will need a new appointment to replace Dean Winward.

DTA Update – Elizabeth Walker, Missouri State University

DTA national convention cancelled due to COVID.

Dr. Bair and Dr. Walker remain in their national offices

NAARU Update – Todd Winters, University of Tennessee – Martin

NARRU represents ~60 Universities across the country, and about 25% of the Food, Agriculture, and Natural Resources B.S. degree graduates nationwide. We caucus and do programming with the Academic Programs Section (APS) in the Board of Agricultural Assembly (BAA) in the Association of Public and Land Grant Universities (APLU).

Year in Review:

- The Annual Meeting of the Non-land grant Agricultural and Renewable Resources Universities was held October 21-23 at Angelo State University, San Angelo, TX
 - Highlights:
 - Agribusiness Tour of San Angelo region
 - Dr. Cindy Akers, Texas Tech U. elected President; Dr. Mike Salisbury, Angelo State U. elected President-elect (All other officers and committee chairs remained the same)
 - Biennial Project Director Meeting and Poster Presentations of NLGCA Capacity Building Grant program
 - A major focus of NARRU was FY2021 re-appropriation of Non-Land-Grant College of Agriculture (NLGCA) Capacity Building Funds re-authorized with new definitions in the 2018 Farm Bill. We also strongly advocate other USDA-NIFA “Ag. Education” grant programs--Higher Education Challenge Grants and Multicultural Scholars Grants. In addition to Hill visits, NARRU submits written testimony to both the House and Senate Ag. Appropriations Committees. We are also already working with APLU to get this NLGCA Capacity Building program reauthorized in the next Farm Bill. Todd Winters serves as NARRU Legislative Affairs Chair.
 - Due to the COVID Crisis the Annual March Winter Board Meeting and Hill Visits were cancelled.

2021 Program – Thom Janini, The Ohio State University-ATI

