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## Notes from the National NSTA Convention

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## NOTES FROM THE NATIONAL NSTA CONVENTION

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It was a great pleasure to meet and hear the new executive director of NSTA, Dr. Bill Aldrich. Under his leadership, the NSTA office has been reorganized to meet the needs of the organization. It was good news to learn that his preliminary analysis indicates that the Association is in good financial condition. Dr. Donald McCurdy, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, was installed as NSTA president. Together, they will provide very able leadership for our Association during the coming year.

The convention was well attended by science educators from all parts of the United States. The three states in District 8, Illinois, Iowa, and Missouri, were represented by 173 individuals. In fact, Illinois ranked second in attendance after California, with 93. This was especially encouraging when you consider that many from this three-state region attended the regional convention in St. Louis just four months prior to the distant Anaheim convention.

Speaking of convention attendance, mark your calendar for the regional and national conventions for the coming year: Oct. 9-11 in Cleveland, Nov. 20-22 in Orlando, and April 3-6 in New York City. Take note: The 1982 National Convention will be held in Chicago, April 2-5.

Your association is active. At the board meeting held as a part of the convention, a position paper on the care of live animals was accepted and will be published in the near future. Other position papers were discussed and should be acted on during the summer board meeting. If there are issues that you feel should be taken to the board for its consideration, please let me know.

President McCurdy has identified several issues which could serve the interests of the Association. These include reviewing the goals of NSTA and science education, clarification of the role of science education in the "basics" movement and more active legislature contacts. I urge you to watch the "fine print" in the NSTA journals to keep up to date on activities of the Association. It is recognized as a voice in science education. By active participation, you make sure it is your voice.

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